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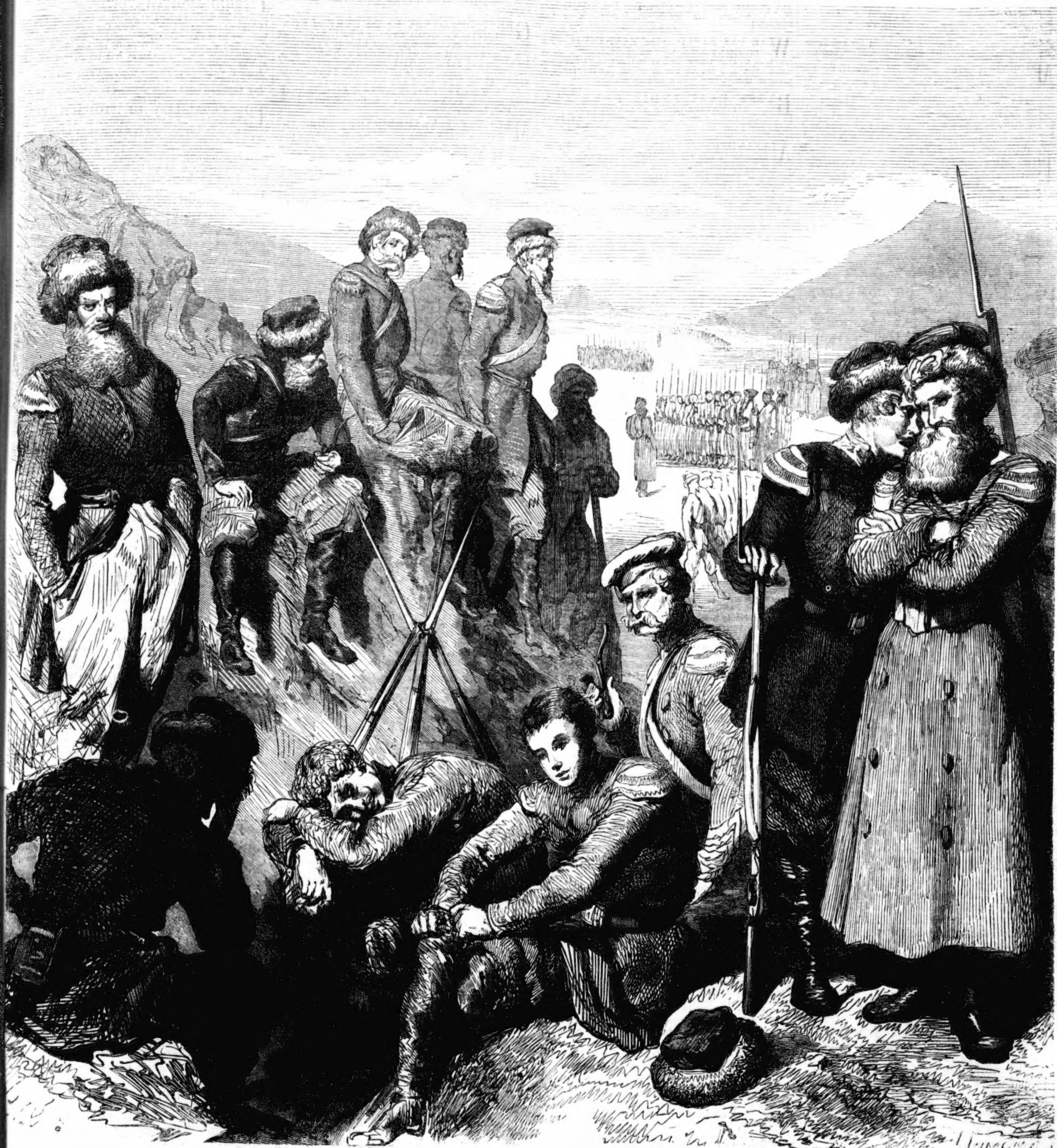
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PARLIAMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT.

THE last dying speech and confession of Lord John was about as dull an affair as we ever remember hearing. Point and emphasis were never the characteristics of his oratory at any time, but on this occasion he was positively a bore. A long-winded, intricate explanation, satisfying nobody, made his speech resemble a maze, minus a Fair Rosamond. At the end, he became tediously pathetic—talked of his services to "civil and religious liberty," and complained of "calumny." When Lord John gets on his own services to liberty, a yawn at once seizes the hearer, who feels inclined to

depart, as Cardinal Perron's valet used to do the moment his master opened to his guests on the Council of Nice. We know his merits in helping to abolish the Test and Corporation Acts; and we know that he took advantage of a tremendous public movement, and seized the trophies of the Reform Bill. These are small feats in a history like that of England. But were they greater, it would be absurd to recall them so frequently. Plutarch observes, that Cicero's exile was partly owing to his always bragging of the deeds of his Consulate; and yet the language in which Cicero bragged (we assure our readers) differs from Lord John's, as sparkling Bur-

gundy does from ginger-beer. As for calumny—why, we all know that the press, which is a "mighty organ of public opinion" so long as it supports a Whig magnate, becomes "ribald" and "malignant" the moment it takes him in its gripe for merited castigation. Lord John has been flattered so long that nothing but sugar agrees with him; he has been spoiled by it,—absolutely made unwieldy by surfeiting like a lady's lap-dog. Let him fall back on dignified retirement, and polite letters,—let him exchange doing what nobody can tolerate, for writing what nobody can read. We should not wonder if he ended—as he certainly began—as an unsuccessful



LEVY OF TROOPS FOR THE RUSSIAN ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

writer; if he rounded the Zodiac, by returning to the sign of the cold and copious Aquarius.

One thing is certain, that his explanation of Monday last contained nothing to improve his position, personally, while it comprised new revelations as to the mysterious state of the Cabinet, which have made the Government more unstable than ever. For himself, the point he insists on (and Lord Palmerston complained savagely, that people ignored it) is, that having accepted the Austrian plan, he made another change, and is at this moment for the war like the rest of us. He made this last change of all (and really he changes so often that one must be particular in discriminating) because Austria wrote in reply to the Clarendon despatch rejecting his favourite proposal, that she had now done all her duty, and would confer again on a limitation of the Russian fleet, not to be made a *casus belli* if refused. In fact, Lord John blames Austria in the matter,—and she certainly out-witted him at diplomacy. But the real question is not between Austria and Lord John, but between England and Lord John. We want to know why he made the warlike speech in the interval between his return and the *éclaircissement*? Why did he come down to the House with a sword in his hand, while his pockets were loaded with olive leaves? Suppose, however, we waive that bit of hypocrisy, how can he stand in the same position as if he had never let us know on what terms he would make peace? It is true that his voice is now for war—but then his voice has lost its moral weight with the country, and consequently it does not signify *now*, whether it is for war or not! A trumpeter is of no use when once his trumpet is cracked! A statesman's reputation is as delicate a matter as a woman's.

His "explanation," then, was only a partial one; and until he gets the country to agree with him that a general "treaty," and four English ships to the Russian eight in the Black Sea, are sufficient rewards of all our blood, treasure, anxiety, and suffering, military and political, Lord John is out of court—an incumbrance, a death's head. Now, the English people are not inclined to agree with that proposal. For one thing, it would be robbing Turkey of the sanctity of the Dardanelles, after going to war to assist her. But Russia would retain Sebastopol, and with it the power of having any amount of ships in an advanced state, though only a certain number were afloat, per treaty. She would forthwith set about improving the Crimea at her leisure. And our little squadron might as well be in the Mediterranean; for if our ships are sufficient to keep her from Constantinople, they are near enough in Besika Bay. We want more! We do not want to make peace on so very meagre an allowance of triumph. That, we are confident, is the country's notion—however vague—and however people are puzzled by these points and counter-points, ultimatums, and what not, at which it seems our destiny to be beaten. The feeling should not be called unreasonable, by Lord John at all events—Lord John, who has employed all the force Nature has given him in lashing the public mind into warlike enthusiasm.

We now come to the reasons which Lord John hinted at as having induced the rejection of his proposition, and which "everybody knows," says Mr. Disraeli, they being simply that France would not hear of it. So that, had France agreed, we should have had the Austrian-Russell peace. "No! no!" cried the Government benches. "No," said Lord Palmerston. But it is stoutly maintained that something very like this is the truth. What we now wish to get at, is the feeling of the Cabinet on the great question of peace or war. But here we are met by a playful response, amounting to "don't you wish you," &c.—were such a phrase parliamentary—as who knows whether it may not be, in time? Mr. Roebuck virtually put this question, whereupon Sir George Grey declined "to answer the appeal of the Hon. and Learned Gentleman." Sir Edward Lytton showed the same inclination to know, and Palmerston fell foul of him with savage jocosity. "He would like to ask us, What do you think of this matter? and, What do you think of that? Tell us your views about the war in the Crimea? Do you consider it would be well to go to the Sea of Azof, or that it would be better to leave Eupatoria? Give us your opinion as to the state of Balaclava!" Why, really, we don't see where the great mischief would be if Lord Palmerston did precisely what he is here putting it forward as the extreme of ridicule, that he should be asked to do. We want to know his policy, to be sure that he has a policy; for, of late, the country has been like the man-of-war in the Baltic, which got in among the infernal machines: a mystery bursts upon us first on one side, then on another,—a ministry explodes one moment—a treaty the next. Lord John has gone off with a fizz, and a malodorous smoke; and H.M.S. England is full of uncertainty and alarm, not knowing what may happen. Though we seem, at last, definitely rid of Lord John, he may be upon us in a new place tomorrow: at all events, he leaves a cabinet in a highly uncertain state, and the public may prepare for new combinations. The public is far more intent on the war, than anything else; but our statesmen show no symptoms of a similar unity of purpose. Every one of them wants to trade on the war feeling, without committing himself. Some who are secretly inclined to peace, dare not come forward to advocate it. Those who most severely criticise the Cabinet, do not tell us what they themselves would do.

The approaching prorogation of Parliament makes it the more important that we should get all we can out of Ministers before our time is up. Hence the sharpness of tone which prevailed in Monday's great debate—one of the most spirited (after the Russell speech was over) which the session has produced. Lord John's political death—for so we hope it was—had, at all events, the usual riotousness of an English execution. When he was once off the platform, the pelting began. Sir Edward Lytton having praised Lord Clarendon—in a manner which isolated him from his brother Ministers—Lord Palmerston was so fiercely eager to prove that the Cabinet was united, that he gave the Baronet his choice of "deliberate insincerity," or "gross ignorance." Mr. Disraeli, in defending his friend, spoke of his language as such as "the Noble Lord cannot command," and even hinted that the Noble Lord's language was not that of a gentleman. There are precedents for this kind of thing in the old days, no doubt; but in those days one was liable to be challenged for it. We now retain Billingsgate after abolishing Chalk Farm. The public has, however, little concern with anything but the great results. We should be glad of Lord Palmerston's jokes if he would give us a successful war. Hannibal made a joke before Cannæ, but he won the battle. Our potentates, however, give us pleasantry and rhetoric when what we want is a sound Government and active hostilities. Palmerston laid himself open—and his Cabinet is eminently open—to critical severity of treatment; but neither of the brilliant leaders of the Opposition

propounded distinct views of their own for the future. All that we got out of that long debate—except intellectual amusement—was an angry assertion that the Cabinet *was* united on one side,—and some very telling speaking to the contrary effect on the other. We got no security of a permanent Government, and no promise of a more stable one to succeed it. The concluding speech was characteristic. It was Mr. Gladstone's, and it held out the prospect of a fresh discussion of all the Austrian Conferences, and points, over again. Fresh matter is turning up,—that is, fresh matter about old transactions; but of fresh insight into the present position, and fresh energy for the future war, there are no signs or prospects. Mr. Disraeli speaks of the "disastrous state of parties in this country;" but if parties have not principles to embody in them, their falling asunder is as inevitable as the decomposition of any defunct body. Indeed, the decomposition, as a condition necessary to other forms of life, may be welcomed. We are heartily glad that the "disastrous" state of the Whig party, for instance, has at this moment prevented us from being saddled with Lord John Russell. There will be strong parties when there are strong-minded and strong-hearted men to form them by their natural attraction; and perhaps it is as well that it is *not* easy to make us forget the want of these by ingenious combinations of inferior spirits.

THE RUSSIAN MODE OF RAISING TROOPS.

THE mode of raising troops, both in England and France, is a very light matter compared with the system adopted by the "Czar of all the Russias." In the two former countries, there are regular systems adopted and adhered to, without inflicting a positive burden either in the shape of money or men. In Russia, however, matters are very differently managed. It is not uncommon to speak of the men out there as being very cheap. Morally speaking, they doubtless are; but so far is this from the truth in a pecuniary point of view, that the regulation price paid for a substitute by a rich serf when drawn as a conscript (or by the lord, when a good workman may happen to be taken), is stated by Haxthausen to have been 2,500 roubles—which, reckoning the rouble at 11d., comes little short of £120—before the beginning of the present war. At the present time, it is difficult to conceive that a substitute would be procurable for any sum, however great.

The new mode of conscription introduced by the late Emperor has had the effect of diminishing the rate of mortality amongst the recruits from a half to one-third. According to the present arrangement, the whole of European Russia is divided into an eastern and a western portion, and the conscription takes place over each of these in alternate years. It was expected that a levy of five in every thousand souls would be sufficient to maintain the army in an efficient condition, which would give an average of 2½ per cent. annually over the whole empire. This amount, however, was found insufficient, even at the outset, and at the expiration of the first 10 years of the new system in 1849, the average levy for the whole empire had amounted to 3.7 per cent. annually. By recruiting the armies of the Caucasus and Georgia from the eastern district, and the armies of Poland and Bessarabia from the western, a considerable amount of transport is saved, and human life proportionally economised. Nevertheless, under the improved plan, the sacrifice is still enormous. Taking the statistics of M. Tengoborski, a Russian *employé*, Mr. Seymour shows that in the period from 1840 to 1854, both years inclusive, no less than 1,350,000 men have perished in the army from all causes. This is nearly the same thing as saying that the whole requires renewal every eight years; and even this fearful estimate does not seem to include the loss in the Cossack or in the Finland contingents, neither of which enter into the regular conscription.

The military system of Russia is commonly spoken of as dating from the time of Peter the Great, and in a certain sense this is quite true. The organisation of the army, however, on its present footing, is entirely the work of the Emperor Nicholas, whose darling object was so to keep up his peace establishment as to be able, the instant war should break out, to take the field with an overwhelming force, and strike a mortal blow before the enemy could prepare to offer resistance. A force, amounting on paper, including reserves, to nearly 1,000,000 of men, is distributed over the vast dominions of the Czar in such a way as to have its most effective portion spread fan-shape round the European edge of the empire, from the Baltic to the Black Sea, thus overawing terrified Germany, while all the parts of it are ready to support one another in the long delayed move upon Turkey. No less than 400,000 soldiers occupy Poland—obviously not merely to coerce the shattered, prostrate form of that unfortunate kingdom, but to support Russian influence in Germany, and to consummate with the sword, when the proper hour comes, the ruin which corruption and intrigue have long been preparing for freedom of thought and action. The Russians proper, who are naturally a pacific people, have the greatest dread of military service, are actuated with little desire for the glory of the warrior. Mr. Haxthausen gives an amusing description of the shifts to which the unhappy serfs, when drawn, sometimes resort, in the vain hope of obtaining an exemption from service. It is a common thing to affect extreme suffering or feebleness, as from some constitutional disease. The recalcitrant conscript is brought, wrapped up in blankets, by his afflicted relatives, to pass the ordeal of the medical inspector. He shakes and shivers, but, unhappily, it is not with ague. The doctor sees through the flimsy sham in a moment, and a single word consigns the poor wretch to the regimental barber, who shaves his beard and the fore part of his head on the spot, and leaves him stripped naked in the snow, blubbering over a fate which appears to him no less than a sentence to death. Formerly, it was a common thing for conscripts to run away and take refuge in the forests, whence they were hunted out like wild beasts; but the late Emperor made great efforts to improve the condition of the soldier; and the result is, that the announcement of a new levy does not excite quite so much consternation as it once did; although even now the separation of the conscript from his family, who regard him as certainly doomed to death, is a most heartrending spectacle. He is not, however, as used to be the case, marched off in chains to prevent his desertion.

The effects of the conscription in Russia upon the productive powers of the country have not often been considered with the attention which their importance demands. Agriculture is for the most part carried on entirely by serf labour, the cultivators working for a certain number of days in the year, generally one-half, on the demesne of their lord, and, instead of wages, raising their own subsistence on another portion of the soil for themselves. The value of a Russian estate is entirely dependent on the number and quality of the serfs who are bound to cultivate it, the land itself being too cheap to be taken into account. But there is another even more remarkable feature, to our western notions, in the arrangement. The lots of land which represent wages are not separately cultivated by the individual serfs, but by the whole in common, the produce being divided in fair proportions by the producers among themselves. This, the sole instance of self-government in an otherwise unmitigated despotism, is said to work extremely well, and to be a custom as dear to the Russian boor as trial by jury is—or rather, perhaps, was—to the Englishman. We are, however, concerned at present only with the effect of the conscription upon this order of things; and here it will be at once obvious, first, that every serf who is taken as a soldier constitutes a tax, not upon the income, but upon the productive capital, of the landlord. For every man that is taken, his demesne loses the half-year's labour (whatever this may be worth) which that man would have performed upon it. But the poor serfs that remain suffer even more. The produce of their wage-land (if we may coin a word to express the peculiar place which their portion of the soil occupies in the economy of the country) is diminished by the same amount as the landlord's, but it is likewise burdened with the maintenance of the wife and infant children of the absent conscript. This burden has now become a most grievous one; for under the pressure of the war, not only have the levies been increased to a fearful extent, but the age for military service has been extended to 37 instead of 30, and no exemption, as was formerly the case, is now granted to the sons of widows or the fathers of more than three children.

There are some regulations of the Russian army from which military reformers in our own country may perhaps take a hint. One of these is that all officers who receive commissions are obliged to serve as non-commissioned officers for a certain period, which used to be six months, but has lately been extended to two years. The only way of escaping this is by passing through the military schools, and undergoing the probation in these. An officer in the probationary state is called a "youngster," and his only privilege is to have the drab greatcoat in which he performs the duties of a sergeant made of finer materials than that of the common turn, an indulgence, however, which is at his own cost. Off duty he lives with the class in which he was born, but still wears his greatcoat even when dining at the general's table. On the other hand, hard as the life of the private soldier is, yet, if he behaves so as to be made a non-commissioned officer, he becomes a "noble" after 12 years' service, and either receives a commission or retires with a pension. The common soldier, too, is often decorated with the order which is of all most highly prized—the Soldier's Cross of St. George. This is simply of lead, and is alike for both privates and officers. It was worn by the late Emperor, having been gained by him under fire in the Turkish war. The Grand Cross of the same order is only bestowed for taking the capital of an enemy, or winning a battle which decides the fate of an empire. Until recently there were only two holders of this, the Duke of Wellington and Marshal Paskiewitch, the latter of whom gained his for taking Erzeroum, the capital of Armenia. Radetsky has since received it for his campaign in Italy—a somewhat equivocal compliment to the Emperor of Austria. The Soldier's Cross is bestowed upon the field where it is earned, and given not only after great battles, but whenever any man has performed a signal act of valour.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

On Friday, 13th inst., the extraordinary session of the Corps Legislatif terminated, after the bill imposing the new taxes had been voted by 232 against 6.

A Legitimist conspiracy has been discovered at Bordeaux. A charitable society, called the Union, established for the ostensible purpose of assisting the workmen, has been secretly canvassing for pledges to Henry V. Several arrests have been made. The society is said to have been connected with the Carlists in Spain.

The Commissioners for Foreign Governments at the Exhibition, deeming it their duty to thank Prince Napoleon, the President of the Imperial Commission, for the manner in which he has accomplished his important mission, a deputation of them proceeded on Thursday the 12th inst., to the Palais Royal, and presented an address to his Imperial Highness.

The commercial activity produced by the Universal Exhibition is extending, and the sales during the week were very considerable. Most of the Parisian manufacturers, but particularly those whose articles attracted attention at the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park, have received orders, which several are unable to execute for want of hands. The number of strangers who arrived in Paris last week was extraordinary, and the sums laid out by them are incalculable. The branches of industry which have hitherto most benefited by the Exhibition are jewellery, bronze ornaments, furniture, and *nonneautés*.

A project was spoken of, about two months ago, in one or two political circles in Paris, which was to be completely effectual in gaining over Austria, to take part with England and France in military operations against Russia; and it is now said that an arrangement has been submitted to the Governments interested that the Danubian Principalities shall be made over to Austria, as compensation for the transfer of a portion of Lombardy to the Duke of Parma, the states of Parma and Piacenza to be given to Sardinia in consequence of her active and efficient co-operation with the Allies.

The Carlist chief Elío, who is still in Paris, under close surveillance, has given no engagement not to stir; but he has, it appears, declared his intention not to do so unless Cabrera, who is in London, sets him the example.

M. Olozaga, the Spanish Ambassador, has returned to Paris, after a visit to the Lower Pyrenees.

SPAIN.

By recent intelligence, we learn that the Carlist invasion had been prepared on a large scale. Forty Spanish refugees, among whom were the chiefs Moga and Sendros, forming the advanced guard of a more considerable band, have been arrested in the department of the Aude.

The Carlists and the democrats, after having excited the movement of the workmen at Barcelona, divided—each party wishing to turn it to account for their direct interest. The workmen of Barcelona continued the rising, but with great calmness; they did not work themselves, but they did not prevent other workmen from doing so.

Matters were no better on the 10th. Colonel Sarabia then arrived there with a letter from the Duke de la Victoria, which had been immediately published, but it produced no effect.

The government sent troops from Castile, Arragon, and Andalusia, on Catalonia, and decided on using force where persuasion was found unavailing. The deputation of workmen sent to confer with the government, a few days ago arrived at Madrid. Marshal Espartero at first refused to receive them, as the deputation was not complete, but the chiefs afterwards had an audience. The head of the deputation commenced his address as follows: "Monsieur—The city of Barcelona sends us"—"That is enough," exclaimed the Duke, abruptly. "As President of the Council, I cannot listen to the emissaries of a city in rebellion against the legitimate authorities, and which has sullied itself by horrible assassinations. Let Barcelona place itself in a legal situation; let the revolted workmen return to their places of employment; and let those who have to complain do so in a legal form; then the government of the Queen will do them justice, at the same time that it will avenge society and cause the laws to be respected."

The disturbances in Catalonia were happily appeased on the 13th. The Queen had sanctioned the bill for a forced loan, and ministerial instructions for the execution of it were about to be issued. Several Carlists had been arrested at Madrid.

The Duke de Tarragon, the eldest son of Queen Christina and the Duke de Riazares, died lately at Malmaison. The deceased Duke was a Grande of Spain.

Before taking her departure from Madrid for the Escurial, on the evening of the 13th, the Queen gave an audience to Don Antonio Gouzalet, on his return to his diplomatic mission in London.

The latest intelligence from Barcelona is favourable. The Carlist band, led by the Hieros, is stated to have been again defeated, having several of their number killed and wounded, and 10 horses captured; but this has not prevented their taking possession of another mail, and burning the Government despatches, the foreign papers, and all letters addressed to the provinces of Logrono and Burgos; the foreign private letters, and those addressed to other provinces, being respected.

PRUSSIA.

The King went on the 14th inst., to Erdmannsdorf, in Silesia, a Royal Schloss, which lies at the foot of the Giant Mountains, and is surrounded by woody scenery of considerable beauty. It is expected that the King and Queen will return from Silesia in the early part of August. The King will also probably pay a visit to Glatz, in Silesia, while the Queen will visit the Court of Dresden for a short time.

There are reports flying about, and are to be found sporadic in the press, that a new treaty is already drawn up and on the *tapis*, in which Russia, Austria, and Germany would come to a common understanding on the exclusive basis of the first two guarantee points.

AUSTRIA.

The visit of the Prince of Prussia to the Court of St. Petersburg has created no little anxiety in Vienna. That it is unconnected with diplomatic matters, as is asserted by many of the Prussian papers, is generally disbelieved, and great ingenuity has been displayed in endeavouring to dis-

cover its real object and motives. Some say that it has been undertaken in consequence of an intention expressed by the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to restore a constitution to Poland.

It is now thought that the Emperor and Empress of Austria will not go to Italy, as at first intended, but to Ischl, with the Archduke Charles and the Archduchess Sophia.

RUSSIA.

A REVOLT of an alarming character has broken out amongst the Siberian regiments of the line, but, as a matter of course, it is not permitted to be mentioned in the shackled journals.

The government at St. Petersburg seems determined upon carrying on the war with the utmost energy. The greater part of the troops quartered at Latak, Krzemienetz, Proskurrow, Novogrod, and Lylomirsk were on the 3rd, on their march on Odessa; all the camps which had been established had been raised, and the baggage had been shipped on the Dniester, to be afterwards re-landed at Orviopol, and then sent to Odessa, from this to Nicolaeff, and then by sea and land to Cherson.

An imperial ukase has been published, ordering the Cossacks of the provinces of Pultowa and Ischernigow in Little Russia to be formed into six regiments of regular cavalry, on the scale of 12 men in 1,000 souls of the population. This will produce a corps of 6,500 men. Their arms are to consist of lance, pistol, sabre, and the inevitable knout, which latter is for the benefit of their horses, as the Cossacks ride with short stirrups and never wear spurs. The Emperor reserves to himself the right of sending them wherever their services may be deemed most required.

ITALY.

The King of Portugal, accompanied by his brother, left Rome for Civita Vecchia, on the 3rd, to embark for Naples. His Majesty arrived in Naples on board a French Government steamer, on July 4. The reception was of the grandest and most flattering description. All Naples was there to witness the landing, and whilst the youth of the King predisposed the people in his favour, the fineness of the weather, the scene, and the magnificence of the preparations, all united to add to the joyousness of the occasion. Their Sicilian Majesties came in from Gaeta one or two days before the arrival of their Royal guest, and were on the spot to receive him. The Conte d'Aquila, one of the King's brothers and High Admiral of the fleet, went out in a royal frigate to meet the young King. The whole diplomatic body, of course, were present, as also the great functionaries of state in full dress. The municipal body, with the *Syndic* at their head in costume of the 17th century, were there too, to do honour to the Royal personage. The extraordinary honours which have been offered to the young King are the subject of general observation, and it is commonly asserted that the object of the Royal visit was to propose for the hand of the eldest daughter of his Sicilian Majesty, a Princess only 14 years and some months old. From Naples the King of Portugal goes to Palermo, to witness the gorgeous national fête of Santa Rosalia.

TURKEY.

The Imperial Family has been plunged into deep affliction by the death of the young Prince Djemal-Edden, who expired on Friday, the 29th ult., after a short illness. His remains were conveyed with great pomp to the mausoleum of Sultan Mehmed, and all the great functionaries assisted at this mournful ceremony.

On 1st inst., General Vivian, Commander of the Turkish Contingent, accompanied by his staff, had a long conference with the Seraskier, at which the Minister of Foreign Affairs was also present.

The barracks at Sentari were to be vacated, on the 2nd inst., by the healthy troops, who will be encamped a little distance off, and the whole of the buildings are to be appropriated for the reception of the sick and wounded. The deaths were then not more than four or five a day, but the cholera was making its appearance.

NEW ZEALAND.

EARTHQUAKE IN THE VALLEY OF THE HUTT.

The following is an extract from a letter giving an account of the recent earthquake in the Valley of Hutt. The letter bears date, March 5, 1855. "On Tuesday, the 23rd of January last, I had engaged to visit a neighbour 14 miles off, but the electric appearance of the air, and very lowering clouds, made me anticipate bad weather, which might have detained me from home, and so I refused to go, providentially as it would appear, for the large brick chimney of my friend's only sitting-room fell into it, and no one in the room could have escaped. We were sitting around our table, with a friend, when, at half-past 9 at night, without the usual rumbling notice which earthquakes generally give us, the shock commenced. The house waved to and fro, rocked, and jumped, as you might fancy a ship would when she strikes on a rock. The lights were dashed off the table; books, glass, china, &c., on the shelves round the room came down, together with the chimney, part of which fell inside, and mixed with the ruins of the furniture, &c. Our friend jumped out of the window and clung to a post outside, but was thrown down then and obliged to lie on the ground. I rushed to open the door, for fear we should all be jammed in, with no means of taking the family out of the house; but it was some time before I could open it, and then only by watching the waving of the house; and when the door was opened, and I let go my hold of it, I was thrown back, and could not rise on my legs till the shock was over, which lasted about 3 minutes, although trying my utmost to get up for the purpose of bringing out the family. No house but one built with posts let into the ground, and wooden houses, put together like a box—as the houses in this country are built—could have withstood such a rattling. Every one in this valley lived in tents for some weeks as the shocks have continued up to the present time, but none have been so severe as the first. This part, for many square miles, is rent in every direction; cracks in the ground, of many feet in length, and from a few inches to several feet deep, exist over very large spaces at short intervals from each other. Our horse-track to the river, which is about half a mile off, has more than 20 such cracks in it, 12 of which opened and shut with violence during the shock, and threw water to a considerable height over the surrounding bushes. I saw the water, cracks, and mud, which were thrown up the morning after, and glad I was that no fissure had opened nearer to our house than 200 yards, or it must have come down on us. Fissures opened in two native warries to my knowledge, and nearly smothered the inmates with water, besides bringing their light buildings down on them. Five natives, however, were killed in one house in this valley, and one was only in Wellington, 34 miles off. Wellington has been raised by the first shock 2 feet in perpendicular height, and some inches since by the slight subsequent ones. We suppose that we also are raised up, judging by the sea-coast. Where the former low-water mark was, it is now high-water mark."

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

THE POSITION OF THE ALLIED FORCES.

The report that prevailed in camp, about the 28th ult., that the Sardinians were returning from Chulini, and the Ottoman troops from the neighbourhood of Baidar, to the plain of Balaklava, has proved untrue. A part of the Sardinian force fell back in a direction towards Tchernogou, for facility of obtaining water, but otherwise have not changed their position. The Ottomans still occupy the neighbourhood of Baidar. On account of several cases of cholera appearing among the men of the 10th Hussars, detached in that direction, a slight change was made in their position. Unfortunately, the disease has not quitted them completely, and it is not unlikely that another change in their encampment will have to be made. We do not hear speak of any immediate movement of the advanced troops. The French have a rumour that three more divisions are coming to join their army, under the command of General Baraguay D'Hilliers. If this rumour contain any truth, there may be an intention of deferring all further movement until the arrival of these reinforcements; for it is very generally asserted that, large as the Allied force is now, it is not yet adequate for the complete investment of Sebastopol and its outworks. A belief prevails that General Liders has joined the Russian force assembled near Khutor Mackenzie, with two fresh divisions. The enemy is keeping a very active watch on our proceedings, as might be expected, and small bodies of Cossacks are observed in frequent movement along the hills, from the Inkermann mountain to Mackenzie's farm.

THE DEATH OF LIEUTENANT W. OWEN.

Lieutenant William Owen, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was mortally wounded on the 29th, in the trenches of the right attack. He was in one of the covered approaches before the Quarry work, when a shell from a cohorn mortar fell a short distance in front of the parapet, and bounded over among the troops. It exploded almost immediately afterwards. From some cause, Lieutenant Owen had not adopted the usual precaution of throwing himself on the ground, and a fragment struck him, as he was standing up, in the lower part of his body. Another officer of the same

regiment, Lieutenant Blane, who at the time the shell dropped was standing between it and Lieutenant Owen, escaped by lying down, although so close to the deadly missile that he was scorched by the flame at the moment of its explosion. Lieutenant Owen died a few hours after being carried up to the camp. He was very young, but had given promise of being a good officer, and his sudden death is much regretted in his regiment. He had only joined two months.

THE REDAN AND THE MALAKHOFF.

A heavy fire was kept up on the 30th in the batteries, on both sides. The Redan has been particularly active, and also a small mortar battery in the hollow between the Redan and Malakhoff hills. The Russian riflemen around the Malakhoff works have omitted no opportunity of firing at any object that may become visible in the advanced trenches, although the range is very long. They also seem to elevate their rifles from time to time, and fire with the chance of hitting some of the men whom they see to be working in the new approaches near the right bayou on Frenchman's hill, for occasionally the balls fall within the trench almost perpendicularly downwards.

The 12-gun battery on the north side, nearly opposite to Mount Sapone, and the small batteries beyond, commonly spoken of as the Cossack batteries, have kept up a very active fire against the French, Inkermann, and other redoubts east of the Careening Bay ravine. The enemy has opened a new six-gun battery on the north side, at a higher elevation, though more distant, than the 12-gun battery, which is on the verge of the cliff above the harbour. The six-gun work is more to the west, and is connected with the outer works of the large Star fort, near their south-eastern angle. The French have commenced a new work still nearer to the water of the south harbour than the small five-gun work which the Russians deserted the day after the capture of the Selinghinsk and Volhynia redoubts. It is on the extreme end of the spur forming the right side of the Careening port. It appears to be intended for a mortar battery, to act against the shipping. The enemy have been making special endeavours to interrupt the progress of this work, apparently under the impression that working parties were still within it. Cohorn shells have been thrown from the Russian batteries on the west side of the Careening port, and some of the guns on the north side have been directed against it. Our Allies appear also to be preparing the Russian 5-gun work for use against the harbour, but there are no guns within yet.

The Russians made a demonstration in force on July 1st, on the north side of the Tchernaya. They came out in several very strong columns, and had both cavalry and artillery with the force. Having advanced a short distance from the broad opening, where the Khutor Mackenzie Road passes northwards under the east aspect of the Inkermann mountain, they deployed, and seemed to invite the French, who occupied the high ground south of the Tchernaya, to advance to the attack. The enemy was too guarded in his movements to leave the cover of his batteries on the Inkermann mountain, and no fighting ensued.

PROPOSALS FOR INVESTING SEBASTOPOL.

The dear-bought experience of a nine months' siege has now demonstrated the necessity of changing our attacking tactics; and it is much to be hoped, therefore, that the proved absurdity of cannonading earthbanks will be abandoned for the surer, though slower, process of complete investment,—if the reduction of Sebastopol must be accomplished before a general clearance of the Crimea. Whilst the great northern road remains open, it practically avails little that we have cut off supplies *via* Kerch and Yenikale; since facilities enough remain to import stores which shall enable its holders to prolong the defence of the town to a point beyond our powers of perseverance in attack. Only three days ago, a thousand laden wagons and some 3,000 men—as nearly as the number of both could be estimated—were seen from our advanced lines defiling leisurely from the interior down to the north bank of the harbour, whence steamers conveyed both across to the main body of the town, which our own milk-and-water policy has hitherto left as safe and habitable as any parish within the London hills of mortality. It matters not that a handful of Turks hold foot-ground behind their earthworks at Eupatoria; the grand line of communication between Bessarabia and the garrison remains open so long as the northern side of the harbour is left free, and the great highway to Perekop unoccupied by a single French or English brigade. It needs no military perception to see the patent absurdity of our present *modus operandi*, demonstrated as it has been by our non-success; and the most "civilian" judgment, therefore, may predict continued failure till the fruitless and costly siege is turned into an effectual blockade.

THE DIFFICULTIES ATTENDING THE ASSAULT.

Some little time must elapse before anything decisive can occur. Both French and English are working incessantly on the right: out the closeness of the enemy's works does not allow of our opening the trenches by day; it is only by night that our workmen can act. But at this season of the year the nights are very short, and then it has happened that the moon has been up. It is barely two hours and a half out of the twenty-four that the works can be actively carried on. Nevertheless, it is considered necessary that our parallels should be advanced so close to the enemy's fortifications, that our attacking columns may not have to pass over more than 60 to 70 yards under a fire of grape. We are still far from the works of the place, and the space that separates us from them being quite exposed and swept in every direction by the Russian projectiles, the approaches progress very slowly.

THE RUSSIAN SORTIE OF THE 14TH.

The following despatch is from General Pelissier, and bears date July 15, 6 p.m.:

"Last night was a successful one on the side of the Malakhoff Tower. About one o'clock the Russians made a sortie with three or four battalions, and made vain efforts to carry an ambuscade on the glacis of the Malakhoff Tower. Received by a brisk fire at close quarters, and by the fire of batteries 15 and 16, they retreated, carrying away very many killed and wounded.

"The reverse of the embrasure was found covered with muskets in the morning; there were also five dead bodies on the ground, one of which was that of an officer.

"The combat was very sharp, and does honour to General Uhrich, who was on duty in the trenches, and to the Lieutenant-Colonel of the 86th.

"Our loss was 9 killed and 11 wounded. Among the latter is Captain Catel, of the Zouaves of the Guard."

THE TURKISH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

AN EXPEDITION IN BEHALF OF ABDUL VELEY.

On Sunday, the 1st of July, an expedition was sent to Upu, to afford to Abdul Vely, the Tartar Bey, the opportunity of bringing over his family. It was under the command of Skender Pacha, and composed of six companies of infantry and a platoon of cavalry. As before, they found the Russians occupying the plateau which divides the Tcherniou valley from that of Upu. As usual, a few harmless shots were exchanged, after which the Russians retired, and the Turks occupied the height overlooking the village of Upu. The Tartar Bey found his family sound and safe, and lost no time in bringing it out, together with his most valuable moveable property. In the afternoon the expedition was back, and the Tartar family encamped in a secluded spot on the hill side, where it has been since the object of great attention. It is composed of Abdul Vely Bey's wife, two girls, both about 15, (one his daughter, the other his niece,) and of a little boy of four years of age. His eldest son had come over with him before.

RUSSIAN INDIFFERENCE.

Whatever the Russians may think about our advance on the Tchernaya, about our marches to Uzembash and back again to Tchernogou, and from Tchernogou to this valley, whether they may simply consider them as a mania for walking, or as so many symptoms of some deeply laid plan, one thing seems certain, that all our erratic movements do not disturb them in their plans. We may be promenading in the valley of Baidar, or have a run over the plateaux above the Tchernaya, they do not interfere,—they stick to the position which they seem determined to defend. Akyer, the White or Mackenzie Ridge, and the heights of Altodor, which form the key to the plateau of Bakshiserai, are the boundaries of it, out of which they are not to be drawn by all our manoeuvres. They seem immovable in this plan of defence, like the mountains on which they stand, so that as the mountain would not come to Mahomet, Mahomet went to the mountain.

SNUFF-BOX FOR OMAR PACHA.

While Skender Pacha was at Upu we had a great review in our valley. Ethem Pacha arrived from Constantinople, bringing a snuff-box, with the Sultan's cipher in brilliants, for Omar Pacha, and medals "for the affairs of Roumania." They are gold for the officers and silver for the soldiers. All those who made the campaign in Bulgaria last year are to receive them, but on this occasion only a few thousands were distributed.

In order to celebrate the distribution the review was held. The soldiers, all in new cloth, with white trousers, were drawn up along the Woronzow road, which leads straight through the valley. I never saw Turkish troops, even at Stamboul, looking better. All the officers in their gala uniforms, with gold lace and epaulettes. Omar Pacha, with his staff, and several officers of the 10th Hussars, came up about 11 o'clock, and was received with a salute of 19 guns. He placed himself about the middle of the line, and the officers and soldiers came to him in detachments to receive the medal from his hands, accompanied by a few congratulatory words. After the distribution was over, the troops detached in columns before the Marshal, and the ceremony was over.

On Tuesday, the 3rd, Omar Pacha accompanied by his whole staff, went over to attend the embarkation of the remains of Lord Raglan.

THE TURKISH CONTINGENT CAMP.

At a distance of some fifteen miles from Constantinople, in a district of much beauty, and not far from the mouth of the Bosphorus, is the encampment of the Turkish Contingent, numbering eight thousand men, under the command of General Vivian, who has established his headquarters at Bayukdere. The camp, formed of rows of white tents pitched in the midst of a green landscape, is picturesque in its aspect, and not without the means, appliances, and materials for rendering its more favoured occupants comfortable. The Eastern soldiers have, naturally, a queer idea of the English, whose notions and feelings are so different from their own; but, no doubt, they are alive to the unaccustomed advantages of certain pay, regular meals, and good clothing. Considerable inconvenience is, of course, experienced, notwithstanding the services of interpreters, from the fact of the officers and the recruits being ignorant of each other's language; but when these difficulties are overcome, as they shortly will be, the Turks, anciently the best soldiers in Europe and the terror of Christendom, will no doubt exhibit, in the face of the enemy, a valour and prowess worthy of their olden renown.

We give a few extracts from letters we have been favoured with from the camp.

"Camp, Yerikoi, June 10.

"I like the appearance of the men forming our regiments. They are good, robust, able-bodied fellows as need be, and they have a cheerful, jolly air, which is half the battle. They are, for the most part, Egyptians, armed with muskets and bayonets, and dressed in blue uniforms. I hope they will soon prove themselves to be of the 'right sort' in action. They are not at all unlike our Indian troops, save that they wear the 'fez,' and are not quite so tall as the Sepoys in general; though the smaller Sepoys in our centre companies are, if anything, inferior, as respects size and strength, to the men here."

"June 17.

"I have been occupied for several hours, preparing the enclosed sketch. We have been ordered to 'strike our tents,' and march to a higher and far better position—the very place, strangely enough, from which I took my drawing. We are now on a splendidly high and healthy situation, immediately in front of the whole camp. Brigadier-General Evans commands our division. I hear people say, that Sebastopol will fall before we can go to take part in the operations; but I cannot help thinking, though 'the wish may be father to the thought,' that, if we push on, we shall be there in time to take part in the siege, and win a share of the laurels. Indeed, our men know their drill perfectly; they handle their muskets far better than the Sepoys, and we might go on in the course of a fortnight. As for the language, we have interpreters; but I don't much want them, as I find my knowledge of Persian, Arabic, &c., particularly useful. With my Afghans I had no interpreter; but they soon found that I could say, 'Come on,' instead of 'Go on'; and, though that's not much of a language, it tells with soldiers."

"June 27.

"I am sorry, indeed, to tell you, that we have cholera in the camp. This morning, with many other officers, I attended the funeral of a young and very zealous assistant-surgeon, named Sibbald, who died yesterday, about sunset. He had been most unremittingly attending the cholera patients in the hospital, and, from very zeal on behalf of sufferers whom he never previously beheld, neglecting his own health. He expired in a miserable single fly tent of that woeful scourge whose progress he had laboured so earnestly and assiduously to check. An officer of artillery died very suddenly of the same disease in the same camp. We are to be removed, I understand, to some spot, not many miles distant, in Bulgaria."

OUR ARTIST UNDER FIRE AT SEBASTOPOL.

I ARRIVED in Kazatch Bay on board the *Highflyer*, from Kerch, on the 16th, and intended returning to the shore, when the Admiral signalled that there was to be an attack made on the Sebastopol forts by the English war-steamer and rocket-boats. As I had not yet witnessed an action, I determined to remain on board; and at nine o'clock at night we began to move as noiselessly as possible towards the place of rendezvous. We took up our position at a short distance from the point of attack. The night was very misty, and we could just see the dark shape of the *Miranda* standing out at sea. Presently she began to move quietly toward us, and as she passed close by our stern she seemed like some great phantom-ship, so noiseless was her progress. We soon lost sight of her in the mist, and after a few moments of breathless suspense, there was a great explosion, and the *Miranda* was seen lit up by fire and smoke, discharging a shower of shot and shells. The next instant another broadside was poured out from her side, and then the Russians answered by their mortars; this was followed by a broadside from the *Miranda*, and then, by the light of a rocket sent by the Russians, we saw her steering away out to sea again.

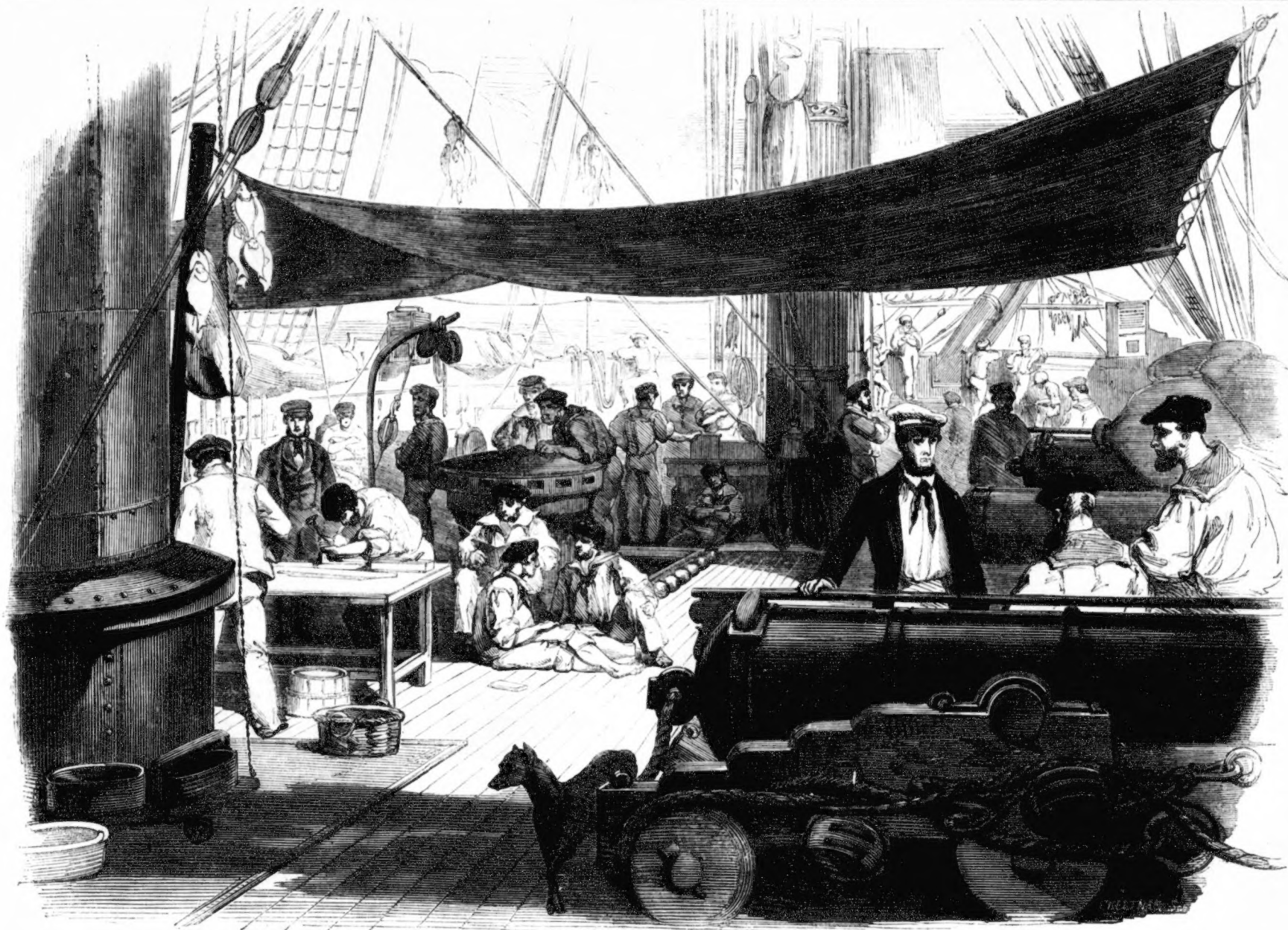
After the lapse of a few minutes, we began to move toward the scene of action; the only guide to our position being the coloured lights which had been placed along the shore by the ships' boats, but which were invisible to the enemy. Being the second to attack we expected a warm reception, as the Russians, having been aroused by the *Miranda*, were, of course, ready to receive us. I had taken up my position on the gangway at the stern, and this enabled me to see all that was going on. It was a very exposed one, but I had taken it, bearing in mind that on a former occasion a shell had come slap through the ship's side into the midshipman's birth or cabin, and smashed all the crockery, and that perhaps it was as well to be on deck, where one could dodge the "whistling Dicks," and stand less chance of being hit, on account of one's isolated position, instead of being ignominiously torn to pieces in a pantry.

We at length came to a stand still, and then all was suspense. The very engines were muffled to such an extent that an engineer standing near me expressed his fear that they could not hold out much longer without letting off the steam, which was too noisy a proceeding to be ventured on as yet. I now heard the whispering to the various gunners, and then "Make ready," "Present," followed by a gush of flame from the ship's side, and the deafening report of eleven 68-pounders. Our first broadside was splendidly fired, every gun going off at once. The jolt it gave the ship almost swung me off the gangway, and I had to hold tight to the rigging—which, by the by, I had hold of before, to prevent myself being pitched into the sea. Simultaneously with the firing of our broadside, an immense shower of shot and shell was discharged at us from Forts Constantine and Alexander. A captain of one of the vessels engaged afterwards told me, that he saw at least eighty shells burst over us at one discharge. We on board could not see them until they got quite close to us, but we could hear them leaving the Russian mortars and guns with a sharp booming report, and coming toward us with a roaring noise, and many of them passing so close to our precious selves that we were obliged to bob and duck like a Chinese mandarin.

Our second broadside was followed by another volley from the forts. Some of the missiles burst over our heads with a noise that seemed almost to knock the crown of one's head in; but on account of our being so close



THE CAMP OF THE TURKISH CONTINGENT AT BUYUKDERE.—(FROM A SKETCH BY LEUTENANT-COLONEL F. OMAR.)



ON BOARD THE HIGHFLYER JUST BEFORE GOING INTO ACTION ON JUNE 11.—(SKETCHED BY JULIAN PORTCH)

to the batteries, most of the shot and shell passed over the rigging, and fell with a smack into the water beyond. Immediately after our second broadside, we got up the steam and veered off, to make room for the *Niger* to go in. We were followed by several rockets, sent by the Russians to

light us on our way, and help us to find out our whereabouts. Accompanying these were a lot more shells, but as we were steaming away at seven knots an hour, they fell harmless around us, some, however, coming quite near enough to make one wink. In fact, with all the shot that was fired at us,

we were lucky enough to escape without a single one touching us, with the exception of some fragments of a shell which burst close to our bows, and threw a shower of blazing fragments over the side. With the exception of damaging some of the ironwork, it did no material harm.



THE BAND OF THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS PLAYING AT BURLINGTON HOUSE IN AID OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

BURLINGTON HOUSE.

The exhibition of works of amateurs, in support of the funds for the relief of the widows and children of soldiers killed in the war with Russia, closed on Saturday last, the 14th July. As if to render the closing day as glorious as possible, the crowd of visitors was greater than we ever remember to have seen before. Of course the pictures by the Royal children were completely surrounded. Their five works, comprising "The Knight," by the Prince of Wales; "The Battle-field," by the Princess Royal; "Prince Hal," by Prince Alfred; "Prayer," by the Princess Alice; and the "Girl Asleep," by the Princess Helena, were among the most famous of London "lions" when on view in Pall-Mall; here they were lodged in more stately and more systematic fashion, and their power of attraction was proportionably increased. Ladies, who had driven long distances into town to have a peep at the "Knight in Armour," thought themselves fortunate, if, after stretching out their necks to look over the rows of bonnets before them, they caught sight of even the plumes in the helmet. But that was enough; they did not come there to criticise; all they required was to be able to say at the next dinner or evening party, that they had seen the royal drawings; to satisfy their consciences when dilating on the beauty of the outline, the sweetness of the idea, or the boldness of the treatment.

When the band stationed in the gardens struck up, and the music floated through the open windows in the exhibition rooms, the pictures were soon forgotten and deserted. Every body made the best of their way to the staircase, hurrying off as fast as hens called to be fed. In less than half-an-hour the gardens were completely filled with the gaily-dressed company. Gentlemen hurried about until they were warm, looking about them for chairs, and ladies tried in vain to screen themselves from the scorching sun, behind parasols scarcely larger than mushrooms, and would have given unheard-of sums for a glass of water, or an ice from Grange's.

Between the performance of the pieces selected for the programme, the conversation turned principally upon the loss the committee had suffered by the failure of Strahan's bank. Money collected in such a cause ought to have been held sacred by even such men as Sir J. D. Paul. We heard a gentleman regretting that the firm did not—instead of giving notice of the approaching failure to their particular friends—drop a note to the treasurer of the Exhibition, to draw out the fifteen or sixteen hundred pounds standing to his account.

The entire collection of amateur paintings is to be shortly disposed of by public auction, at the rooms of Messrs. Christie. We trust that the wealthy of the land will step forward and bid largely, and thus benefit the relatives of those poor men who for their part have so nobly done their country's bidding.

GENERAL PELISSIER'S TRIBUTE TO LORD RAGLAN.

General Pelissier announces the death of Lord Raglan to the French army in the following order of the day:

GENERAL ORDER.

Death has come to surprise Field-Marshal Lord Raglan in the exercise of his command, and to plunge the English army in mourning.

We, all of us, partake of the regret which is felt by our brave Allies. Those who have known Lord Raglan—who have known the history of his life, so noble, so pure, so full of patriotic services—those who were witnesses of his intrepidity in the days of Alma and Inkermann—who can recall the calm and stoical grandeur of his character throughout this rough and memorable campaign—in a word, all men with hearts, will deplore the loss of such a man.

The sentiments which the General-in-Chief here expresses, will be those of the entire army. He himself is shocked by this unlooked-for blow. The general grief is increased with him in finding himself ever separated from a companion in arms whose cordial spirit he loved, whose virtues he admired, and with whom he always found loyal and affectionate concurrence.

At the General Quarters before Sebastopol, June 29, 1855.

(Signed)

The General-in-Chief, PELISSIER.

LORD RAGLAN'S REMAINS.

On the body being embarked at Kamiesch the French lined the road for six miles, and the funeral procession was conducted with the greatest respect and decorum, and was received by Admiral Stewart and a large number of boats forming a funeral procession. The respect shown by the French was something beautiful, and endeared them to the friends of Lord Raglan.

At Constantinople, Lord de Redcliffe and suite paid a visit of ceremony to the *Caradoc*, the vessel bearing the remains, and on her arrival at Malta, on the morning of the 10th, the Union Jack was hoisted half-mast high, and every demonstration of mourning made.

Commander Derriman brings the *Caradoc* home, having been in close attendance on Lord Raglan since he has been in the East, and on his promotion for his personal gallantry at Alma, he was kept in command of the vessel at Lord Raglan's particular request. He lately distinguished himself in joining the French in their assault upon the Mamelon, and was so far ahead that he was taken for a Russian, and sent to the rear as a prisoner.

The following despatch, from Lieutenant-General Simpson, was received by Lord Panmure on Wednesday last:—

Before Sebastopol, July 7, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the remains of our late lamented Commander-in-Chief, Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, were removed from Headquarters to Kazatch Bay, on Tuesday the 3d inst., and placed on board her Majesty's ship *Caradoc*, which departed for England that same evening.

Nothing could be more imposing than the whole line of the funeral procession. The day was fine, and the appearance of the troops splendid; as many as could be spared from duty in the trenches, and with safety to their camp, were collected, and the procession moved from the door of this house exactly at four o'clock p.m.

(General Simpson here gives the order of the procession, which we omit.) Everything was well conducted, and no accident occurred.

Thus terminated the last honours that could be paid by his troops to their beloved commander. His loss to us here is inexpressible; and will, I am sure, be equally felt by his country at home. The sympathy of our Allies is universal and sincere. His name and memory are all that remain to animate us in the difficulties and dangers to which we may be called.

I have, &c.,

JAMES SIMPSON,
Lieutenant-General Commanding.

The Mayor of Bristol has issued a notice, that, upon the arrival of the steamer at Bristol with the remains of the late Lord Raglan (with a view to their interment in the family vault at Badminton), the civic authorities will be in attendance and follow the body in procession through the city to its boundary. The Mayor also expresses his hope that the citizens will close their places of business on the occasion.

LORD RAGLAN AT THE AFFAIR OF THE 18TH.—Lord Raglan was at the attack; he was close by our Regiment all the time, and I never saw a man in such a way in all my life as he was. He called first for one officer and then for another; then he would call for his spy-glass, and then, perhaps, sit down. You should have heard him abuse the Commanding Officer of the 34th Regiment. Lord Raglan told him, that if he had only sent a company of the 49th, they would have taken the Redan, or not a man of them would have come back alive.—*Private Letter from the Camp.*

THE GUARDS SHOWING THE WHITE FEATHER.—The Guards, I am sorry to say, have thoroughly disgraced themselves, and the whole of the Line are crying shame upon them. They were sent into the trenches the other night, and ran away from their posts, and the 72nd Regiment had to hold their position. The Guards left their grog behind, which the 72nd obliged them by drinking.—*Private Letter from the Camp.*

LORD RAGLAN AND GENERAL CANROBERT.—It is now stated, in justice to the memory of the dead, that the inaction of the allied army, during the early part of this year, was mainly owing to the scruples of the French, and not of the English, general.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

On the 3rd a Russian soldier, a corporal in one of the picked regiments of the Guards, deserted to the flag-ship, and gave most important information respecting the fortifications of Cronstadt and the distribution of the troops; he says that in the ranks of the latter, among the latest recruits are to be found old gray-headed men, and boys not more than 16.

On the morning of the 5th the *Princess Alice* proceeded towards Cronstadt with a flag of truce, and bearing a letter from the Commander-in-Chief to the Russian Minister of War. She was met by a steamer from the harbour, who received the despatch and both vessels returned. Every day, Sundays not excepted, the enemy exercise the mortar batteries along the northern sea-wall. Some of the mortars have an immense range.

On the evening of the 6th the Commander-in-Chief tried the range of a 32-pounder gun, which had been slung in a peculiar manner, at an angle of 45 degrees, in one of the wood boats captured a few days ago. The boat was moored across the stern of the flag-ship, and three or four shots fired; the fall of the first in the water was eagerly watched for, but it took so long a time before it fell, that it was given up; but in a few seconds exclamations of astonishment burst forth as a small column of spray rose in the air at a distance of more than 5,000 yards, or over three miles; the shot took exactly 31 seconds for its flight. The boat was then towed a little nearer the shore, opposite one of the new earthen batteries, near the Governor's house, and a couple of shots fired to ascertain if they were within range. Both shots went a long way over the battery, which immediately returned an ineffectual fire with mortars that would not carry the distance. These are, perhaps, the first shots from an enemy that ever alighted on the Island of Cronstadt. About an hour before dusk a small boat was seen creeping along the north shore towards St. Petersburg; two gunboats were sent to stop it, and returned about 11 p.m. with it in tow. It contained three fishermen, who were trying to take three or four kegs of sprats to market; after being examined and cautioned, they were allowed to go away.

On the 7th, the French and English Commanders-in-Chief proceeded to reconnoitre the South Passage, and approached within 2,800 yards of the Rishank Battery, which fired several shots at them, but all fell short; one, however, came in a good direction, about 150 yards astern of the vessel. While the Admirals were away, two Russian gunboats came out of the northern passage and proceeded along the shores to the westward. The *Maggie* and *Lark* gunboats went immediately to cut them off from returning, and would most probably have succeeded had their recoil not been made by the flag-ship, and enforced by several guns. They, however, continued their course until within range of the chase, fired a single gun each at them, and to the astonishment of everybody, turned their heads round and came back to the fleet as fast as they could. The Russian boats quietly proceeded into harbour; the decks of both were crowded with people, some in uniform and others in plain clothes. Most likely they were excursionists, who came out to obtain a nearer view of the fleet. The weather continues very hot and sultry; at times there is not a breath of wind, and the water is covered with a dirty green scum, like a stagnant pond in England.

Large numbers of the Russians are busily employed in still further increasing the defences of Cronstadt. On every available plot of ground facing the sea, batteries are in course of construction; even the last resting-places of the dead are now included in the line of fortifications of that island.

According to the latest advices, the Russian military authorities encourage as much as possible the immigration into the interior of the inhabitants of the Baltic ports, especially those residing at Abo and Helsingfors. The artisans and the poorer classes are compelled to remain to obtain the means of subsistence. Throughout the entire length of the Gulf of Finland, especially on the main road from Helsingfors towards St. Petersburg, the enemy's troops are constantly receiving reinforcements. A Cossack sergeant, who had been 17 years in the Russian army, and who deserted about the 9th, from the garrison of Cronstadt, states that there are 60,000 well-disciplined soldiers on that island, 10,000 of them being Poles, who would rejoice at having an opportunity of joining the Allied forces, and at being liberated from the dominion of their present taskmaster.

DESTRUCTION OF SVARTHOLM AND LOVISA, AND OF 20,000 TONS OF SHIPPING AT NYSTAD.

A DESPATCH from Rear-Admiral Dundas, states that on July 7, he received a report from Captain Yelverton, respecting the destruction of the fort at Svartholm. The Captain in his despatch says:—

"Svartholm was in good condition, and a work of great strength, entirely commanding the approaches to Lovisa; it has had important additions of late years, can mount 122 guns, and had accommodation in casemated barracks for about 1,000 men, with governor's house and garden, and excellent officers' quarters. I made immediate arrangements for blowing up the fort and completely destroying the barracks; these have since been fully carried out.

"On the 5th I made a reconnaissance of the town of Lovisa, in the *Ruby*, accompanied by the boats of the *Arrogant* and *Magicienne*. A strong detachment of Cossacks made their appearance at one time, but they were dispersed by the fire from the boats, the rockets particularly throwing them into great confusion. On landing at Lovisa I sent for the authorities, and explained the object of my visit; some demur was caused by our not having a flag of truce. I told them they had no right to such a guarantee, as the respect due to it had been so grossly violated at Hango. I then proceeded to the barracks and government stores within the town, which I destroyed, but did not set fire to them, as by so doing the whole town must have been burnt.

"This precaution was not destined to save Lovisa, for during the night an accidental fire occurred in a portion of the town where we had not been, and before morning the whole place was reduced to ashes."

The following is an extract of a letter from Rear-Admiral Dundas, of the same date as the above:—

"I cannot conclude this letter without calling particular attention to the active exertions of Captain Storey, of her Majesty's ship *Harrier*, which led a few days later to the destruction of twenty thousand tons of Russian shipping discovered afterwards in another anchorage near Nystad."

PLUNDER AT KERTCH BY A NAVAL OFFICER.

(Extract of a Letter from our Correspondent.)

CAPTAIN LORING, in the *Furions*, was sent by Sir Edmund Lyons to assist the British landers in protecting private property at Kertch, and was very active in his exertions to check the plunder that was going on. His vigilance was, however, especially necessary to prevent his own men from helping themselves, for Jack has a great regard for "curios," as he calls them, and would incur any amount of danger to obtain even a picture of the Virgin Mary—so that it is "Rooshian," Jack is satisfied, although he by no means objects to things more substantial if he can obtain them. Captain Loring intercepted one boat's crew who had possession of a very fine pig. He compelled them to abandon the unclean animal, and gave them a good blow-up in lieu of the glorious blow-out they were anticipating off their prize. The midshipman in charge of the boat's crew, belonging to the *Sidon*, was moreover desirous for permitting the capture. Now, Jack, who is by no means slow in drawing comparisons, thinks it very hard that he was deprived of his pig, while a commander of a gunboat was allowed to take an armed boat's crew on shore for the express purpose of removing the bell from a church; thus compelling Jack to rob the church, and find his own tools to do it with—an act which Jack considers very much in the light of a crime. If Captain Loring were aware of the fact of a commander of one of the gunboats having actually landed with an armed crew, and carried off a church bell in open day, in the face of the old priest, who held up his hands in supplication, repeating "Catholique! Catholique!" and while he (Captain Loring) was in charge of the town, we certainly think that the midshipman of the *Sidon*, no less than the boat's crew, was hardly dealt by. The pig was most likely afterwards taken by the French as a fair spoil of war; but our gallant Allies thought it their duty to afford what protection they could to this very church by placing a flag at the door.

LORD DUNDONALD'S PLAN.

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the *Morning Post*:—

SIR,—It appears, by a reply to a question put for the fourth time in the House of Commons (on the 6th instant), that my "plans" were referred to a committee, and were so very obvious that they required no explanation from Lord Dundonald to render them perfectly intelligible. But whether this facility of comprehension arises from circumstances compatible with their practicability and efficiency, or from their being manifestly absurd and beneath notice, does not appear. Thus the reply is another instance of the oracular mode of elucidating official questions of great national importance.

It seems quite useless longer to trespass on public attention by contending against such enigmatical modes of proceeding, or to submit professional hints to non-professional authorities. But it may be well to prepare the public mind for the consequences of (a rare occurrence) a naval stratagem, which will not fail to be put in practice in order to defeat the long-threatened bombardment of Cronstadt—namely, by an ambush of numerous row galleys, held in readiness to pull round the eastern end of the island, and attack the battering vessels in flank. To counteract the effect of such superior force, I assert that there is no adequate means, unless by the employment, to their full extent, of my plans—our gunboats, having high pressure boilers, being ill-suited to make prolonged resistance.

Desirous as I am to promote the success of her Majesty's arms, and the interests of our country, I feel that it would be to me a cruel injustice to find the execution of my plans, or any part of my plans, transferred to other officers, especially after having kept them secret for 40 years, on the hope of that personal honour. I cannot, therefore, credit a rumour in circulation, that it is contemplated to use the protective innocuous portion of my plans, under the plea that it has been offered by some other person, which may well be, considering the publicity that has recently been forced upon me; indeed, I should not be surprised if similar communications have reached St. Petersburg.—I am, sir, your obliged and obedient servant,

DUNDONALD.

London, 14th July, 1855.

PROMOTION BY FAVOUR.—A "death vacancy" among the lieutenants occurred a few days ago in the Naval Brigade before Sebastopol, and, by the usual custom of the service, should have been conferred on one of those who had worked with it all along, but Sir Edmund Lyons selected for promotion a midshipman serving in the *St. Jean d'Acre*, who happens to be a son of Sir James Graham; directed that a board should be held to pass him to his next step—that of a mate; and before he had been in that rank, a dozen hours, signalled for him to come to breakfast, and handed to him his commission as lieutenant. Very many hard-working and deserving mates now with the brigade, and of some years' standing in the service, have been passed over to make room for a youngster of 19 years of age.

TROPHIES OF WAR.—I send you two visiting cards, which one of our men took out of the drawing-room of a very fine house, plundered in the town. The inhabitants never fancied we could get so far, and so were routed out in a hurry, leaving a capital cold lunch of chicken and ham, with wine, on the table, and an old nurse and four little children in the nursery. One of the 35th actually carried off a little baby, and they say it is now alive. (This child was subsequently delivered up to the Russians, during the truce.) I have got a telescope, and a lot of nursery books, and our camp is full of pigeons, guinea pigs, pistols, books, a general's cocked hat, swords, &c., all from this house, which evidently belonged to somebody of high rank, it was so beautifully unfurnished.—*Letter from the Camp.*

COSTUME IN ST. PETERSBURG.—The reform of costume is continuing at St. Petersburg. In a short time, all the police of the city will be dressed in the "polukaiten," that is, with large boots and Cossack trousers. The Russians see in this return to the old national costume, a sort of victory over the "Nemetz-koe" or German party.

SALTPETRE WANTED.—A notice has been issued by the Russian Ministry for War, that in future no contracts will be needed for deliveries of saltpetre, and that all persons having that article to dispose of, may send it in any quantity to the Imperial powder mills at Sebastopol, in the province of Tchernigov, where it will be received by the government officers, and the quality examined, after which the payment will be made without any reduction.

SCENE AT THE TRENCHES.—A supper was brought from the trenches with his jaw broken, and a piece of it sticking out more than an inch from his face. The man said it was done by a round shot; the doctor shook his head, but the poor fellow insisted, and said, "Yes, and it took off the head of the man next me." This was conclusive, and the surgeon proceeded to remove the bone. It came out quite easy, and the doctor said, "Can you move your jaw?" "Oh, yes, sir," was the reply. The doctor then put his finger into the man's mouth, and found the teeth were there, and at length assured the soldier that it was no jaw of his that was broken, but that of his headless comrade, which had actually been driven into his face, inflicting a severe, but not dangerous wound. Upon this the man's visage, which had been rather lengthened, rounded up most perceptibly.

A WHIM OF THE Czar.—The marine artist, Evazowsky, has received directions from the present Emperor of Russia to revive on canvas, from memory, the Russian vessels which were destroyed for the purpose of obstructing the progress of the enemy.

RUSSIAN EMISSARIES IN ENGLAND.—It has been ascertained that M. Petersen, the Russian Secretary of Legation at Lisbon, went to France with the King of Portugal, crossed over to England, and left Southampton for Lisbon in the *Tagus* mail packet, on the 17th of last month. This is the third time M. Petersen has visited England since the war with Russia. The object of these visits to England is to get saltpetre shipped from England to some German port via Lisbon. M. Ozeroff, the Russian ambassador at Lisbon since the war, went to Lisbon from England in a British steamer, with an Austrian passport.

ANOTHER AUSTRIAN OUTRAGE.—At a late hour in the night of June 24, two Austrian soldiers broke into a public-house, at Bucharest, kept by one Demetrius Anghel. The landlord being awakened by his wife, and told that robbers were in the house, rose from his bed and laid hold of one of them. The soldiers, however, got off, leaving Anghel in a desperate condition, with five bayonet wounds, and carrying with them 160 piasters taken from the till, and several kitchen utensils.

THE MUSEUM AT KERTCH.—Admiral Bruat, in a letter to the French Minister of Marine, states, that the mischief done at Kertch has been greatly exaggerated; that the Museum of Antiquities had long before given up its most valuable collections; that the medals, amongst other rare objects, had completely disappeared, but there remained some bas-reliefs, which the commandant of the *Phlégon* collected and placed under seal. On the whole, he does not think that science has much reason to regret the destruction which has taken place in the Museum at Kertch. Some urns in terra cotta, and some vitreous ware, have been broken; valuable articles had been previously removed by the owners, and the care of the commandant of the *Phlégon* have still further contributed to reduce the losses.

SIR G. BROWN.—It is said that the health of this gallant officer is extremely impaired, and that no visible improvement has taken place since his removal from the scene of hostilities in the Crimea. He has been ordered to repair to England, as the only source likely to prove beneficial in his critical state, and not to sojourn at Malta, where he had arrived in the *Nubia*, to endeavour to recruit his shattered constitution.

THE Czar AND HIS SOLDIERS.—The Russian Emperor, while recently inspecting the Cadets, among whom were a corps of young Circassians walked up and down the ranks saluting the young soldiers, receiving in return the most enthusiastic acclamations. The exercises over, the Emperor made the youths form a circle round him, and then expressed to them his satisfaction with their conduct, and his confidence in their devotion. His words were received with frantic applause, and when he was about to leave, the circle closed nearer to his person, and the cry was raised of "Let your Majesty stay a little while amongst us; we shall not see him much longer, for his glory and the glory of our country call us to arms!" The Emperor remained a quarter of an hour with the youthful soldiers, and, on parting, saluted them with the utmost tenderness.

HELGOLAND.—It is now positively stated that England, taking up the old project of the Liverpool ministry, will, at a not distant period, convert the island of Helgoland into a fortress of the first rank, which will command the North Sea as Malta and Gibraltar do the Mediterranean.

ABOLITION OF DUELLING IN SPAIN.—The editors of the political journals of Madrid have established a Court of Honour, specially charged to examine into and arrange personal disputes which might arise in consequence of articles published, and thus prevent the frequent recurrence of duels. The salutary effects produced by this institution have induced the editors of the non-political press to organise a similar court, which has just been duly installed. It is said that the members of the public press in several of the chief provincial towns have it in contemplation to adopt a similar measure.

THE FINAL DEMONSTRATION IN HYDE PARK.

On the afternoon of Sunday last, the aristocratic region surrounding Hyde Park was again invaded by the "fierce democracy" of the teeming metropolis. In obedience to a summons, circulated during the previous week, ten or twelve thousand persons assembled to express their dissatisfaction with the Beer Bill. Many of them were respectable in appearance, but a large proportion consisted of boys and lads bent on indulging their spirit of mischief, and of juvenile members of the "light-fingered gentry," eager for an opportunity of pursuing their dexterous avocation.

The authorities had taken the necessary precautions, and the police, who were in great force in the neighbourhood of the Park, and at the various stations, took steps, as on the preceding Sunday, to prevent disturbance, by directing carriages to avoid the great drive. Most of the carriages did so, and the few vehicles which took the usual route were allowed to pass along without any interruption from the crowd. About three o'clock, a half-tipsy man, shabbily dressed, stood upon the protruding roots of a tree, which served as a rostrum whence to address to those in his immediate vicinity a long rambling speech, the wisest part of which probably was the concluding sentence, in which he announced his intention of going home directly.

At this stage of the proceedings, some one cried out, "A watch, a watch." It was then discovered that some one had stolen a watch belonging to a naval officer. Immediately, the crowd began to run away, and the several hundred juvenile thieves, who were well known to the police, followed, crying out, "Let us go to the squares." The whole of those nearest to the Serpentine rushed en masse towards Chesham Place, but they had scarcely reached St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, when a body of police approached, and at once fell into such order that the people were prevented from following.

Nearly every nobleman's house in the squares near Belgravia was so guarded by the servants that it would have been extremely dangerous for any of the rabble to have attempted to make any attack upon the premises, for, independent of the police, the occupants were armed with stout wooden staves.

THE SANATORY STATE OF THE THAMES.

For some time past a most noxious smell has arisen from the river Thames. At first it was thought it arose merely from the action of the hot sun upon the deep mud banks at the sides of the river. The stench from them at any time is bad enough, but at this time the water of the Thames, never very pellucid, has become positively so bad as to be most dangerous to the public health. The water looks like so much thick coffee-grounds, and stinks most abominably—so bad is it that the captains and men of the steamboats plying above bridge can scarcely continue their duties. Higher up the river it is even worse. Above Hammersmith, one morning very recently, the shores were covered with dead fish—waggon-loads might, without exaggeration, have been collected. If, then, the water is so impure that fish cannot live in it, it may easily be conceived how prejudicial it must be to the public health. And now as to the cause. It appears that the Brent canal, debouching into the river at Brentford, has long been in a foul state, and the proprietors are having it cleaned out, and have caused the collection of abominations that have been accumulated for years, to be discharged into the river Thames. The Thames at all times is bad enough; but it is too bad that individuals should be permitted to endanger not only the health, but even the lives of the people; and, as if to make matters worse, they have chosen the very worst possible time of the year for the work. There has been a long cold spring, in which it was permitted them to carry on their operations with impunity. Instead of that, however, they have chosen the period when there was most danger. The Minister of Health in the House of Commons, while admitting and condemning the proceeding, stated that he had no power to interfere. Remonstrances have been made to the Home Secretary, but without avail; the same lack of power being confessed. But, if we mistake not, there is yet an authority who can and ought immediately to interfere before it is too late. By virtue of his office, the Lord Mayor is conservator of the river Thames from Gravesend to Staines Bridge. He can prevent refuse, such as ashes from steamboats, or the discharges from gas-works, being thrown into the river. If he has power in these two instances, surely he can take immediate steps not only to put a stop to the nuisance, but to punish the offenders. The inhabitants have already, within the last seven years, been visited by two destructive pestilences; and who can tell but that cholera is at hand? The Registrar-General, in his last weekly return, sounded a note of warning. Six persons had died from the disease in the previous week, the worst and most rapidly fatal case being that of a labouring man living on the banks of the now pestilential Thames at Battersea. The warning being given, no time should be lost in preparing for even the possible danger of another outbreak, and the first step to be taken should be to stop the nuisance at Brentford. In addition, however, to the danger to health caused by the nuisances, there is a large class of very poor people who will be positively ruined. We refer to the poor fishermen who live on the banks of the river from Hammersmith to Richmond. Their calling is quite gone, for the fish is nearly all destroyed; and what makes matters worse is, that there are no means by which they can obtain redress or compensation.

THE CRIMEA.

GEOLOGICAL FEATURES OF THE CRIMEA—ITS MOUNTAINS AND STEPPES.
The general form of the Crimea, of which we give this week a large and elaborate engraving, is, by this time, more or less familiar to every one. It is the southern portion of the Steppes of Russia, with the important distinction, that its southern portion is raised by volcanic action to a great height, sometimes reaching to more than 4,000 feet above the level of the Black Sea. A range of mountains, elevated by this cause, runs nearly N.E. and S.W. from Balaklava to Kaffa (or Theodosia). These mountains themselves occupy a considerable space; they are generally flat-topped, and contain within their range high plains, resembling the high meadows called "alps" in Switzerland, which are termed in the Tartar language "yaita." In these elevated plains alone is pasture to be found during the heats of the summer,—that is, from the end of June till the middle of September, or even later. On the south side of the mountain range there is a sort of undercliff, protected from the cold winds of the north by the wall of mountain which backs it, and in this the fertility of the soil vies with the exquisite beauty of the scenery. A road constructed by Prince Woronzow runs from the plateau now occupied by the Allied forces through the valley of Baidar, and, approaching the coast, traverses this region as far as Alouchta, where it turns northwards towards Simpheropol. After proceeding about twelve miles, the highest mountain in the Crimea, the Tchatir-Dagh (Tent Mountain) rises immediately on the left. The traveller, up to this point, has been ascending all the way from Alouchta, but here, after passing a defile called Demir-kapou (Iron-gate), he descends the valley of the Angar, one of the affluents of the Salghir, the largest of the streams of the peninsula, and thence proceeds on a good road, with a general descent, to Simpheropol. The Tent Mountain, which derives its name from the resemblance of its upper portion to the tents of the Nogai Tartars, is composed of red marble. It may be ascended from its eastern side; and at the height of more than 4,000 feet above the sea, presents the appearance of a flat table-land four or five miles in length, and two miles broad, covered with fine pasture, on which feed numerous flocks of sheep. From this low table rises another 700 or 800 feet high, the form of which gives the name to the whole mountain. We will suppose the reader to ascend this, and from his elevated position take a view of the scene around him.

So far as his eye meets the mountain range of which the Tchatir-Dagh is the highest summit—it being no less than 5,125 feet—he will discover nothing but exquisite beauty in whatever direction he turns. In the "yaitas" he will see endless flocks and herds, and in the sheltered nooks Tartar villages, orchards, and vineyards. The sea in the immediate neighbourhood adds its peculiar charm to the view, and the whole presents a picture in which sublimity and softness are combined to a degree rarely, if ever, equalled. But if the spectator turns to the northward or westward, he will observe a strange contrast. In the former direction, Simpheropol, the Russian capital of the Crimea, will seem, from the great

height at which he is, to lie almost beneath his feet, and beyond it he will see spread out an uninterrupted plain of monotonous gray colour, which stretches out not only as far as the Isthmus of Perekop, but a couple of hundred miles further. The same appearance will be presented beyond Bakschiserai, where the mountains appear to terminate to the westward; so that, in fact, he may imagine himself standing upon a huge island surrounded by two oceans, the one of blue sea, the other of dull gray steppes. This latter region it is which renders nugatory the enormous hosts of Russia when directed against an enemy who has command of the sea. If two irregular lines be drawn—the one within the peninsula from Kaffa, through Stera Crim, Karasu-Bazar, Simpheropol, and Bakschiserai to the mouth of the Belack river, just north of Sebastopol, the other from Bender, on the Dniester, in a north-eastern direction, through Kremenchoug, Poltawa, and Izoum, to Saratoff, on the Volga, the country contained between these limits possesses, with trifling exceptions, one monotonous character—namely, that of a vast undulating plain, bare of wood, covered in spring and early summer with a rank vegetation, and in winter with deep snow. Owing to the horizontal position and uniform quality of the strata of which it is composed, the rain which falls upon it does not sink through, and remain stored up below the surface, as is the case in porous soils, and those which have receptacles in their interior where the water which has percolated may collect.

THE CLIMATE OF THE CRIMEA.

In the steppes of southern Russia, too, the highest point in the whole extent is a small hill only 240 feet in height, and the difference in elevation scarcely averages more than 50 feet; consequently, there is no opportunity for the existence of springs. The rain, when in such abundance as to do more than saturate the ground on which it falls, forms a torrent, following the varying undulations of the surface, and cutting a channel for itself in the same manner as may be seen, on a small scale, on a turnpike road in England, after a thunderstorm, until it at last collects in some hollow, and forms a lake, a pond, or a swamp, according to the shape of the receptacle and the abundance of the supply. After the melting of the snows in the spring the whole country is for a time a wilderness of mud, over which no wheeled carriage can pass, intersected by ravines formed by the running surface water in the course of a succession of years. As the country becomes dry and the power of the sun increases, there springs up a coarse vegetation sometimes of more than six feet high, of low plants rather than grasses. In the month of July these are entirely burnt up by the want of moisture; the water-courses are dried up; and the flocks and herds, the principal tenants of these melancholy regions, are forced to take refuge in the neighbourhood of the swampy pools which exist here and there in the hollows, finding upon their banks a pasture which, however coarse, is more palatable than the stalks of the barian, which alone remain elsewhere. As the summer advances the heat becomes more and more insupportable, the pools of water disappear, the sky becomes hazy, and the sun, at setting, reminds the traveller of the blood-red hue which it assumes in the Arabian deserts; a scorching wind blows from the north-east, equally destructive to vegetable and animal life, and filling the air with clouds of dust. Every now and then rain-clouds collect, and give a promise of some relief to the parched soil, but the upward current of hot air from the ground carries them away seaward, and their precious contents are discharged upon "the unfruitful brine." This state of things continues generally till the middle of September, when the autumnal rains commence, and call forth a new birth of vegetation. In November the tempests of winter return, and with them a new form of desolation throughout the steppes. Hurricanes are very common during the next four months, raising snow-drifts which bury man and beast beneath them. The terrified cattle, when caught in one of these, become panic-stricken, and disperse in all directions, sometimes running headlong into the sea, or the water-courses which seam the steppes. These storms last usually about three days, but have sometimes been known to continue as many weeks.

THE CRIMEA IN A MILITARY POINT OF VIEW.

It is obvious that the possession of the whole peninsula of the Crimea virtually depends upon the possession of the mountain region which has been described as lying like an island at the extremity of this singular country; and this question must be settled in favour of the belligerent who succeeds the best in pouring in regular supplies of men, food, and munitions of war. It would be hardly too much to say that the problem is a simple one of transport. The command of the Sea of Azof has not only destroyed at one stroke the greater half of the maritime commerce of Russia, but has deprived her army in the Crimea of the means of obtaining either reinforcements or food by any other channel than the passage across the steppes. Over these barren wastes must every man and every sack of flour be brought since the day when the gallant Lyons cleared the Sea of Azof of the enemy's transports. Mr. Seymour, who has just published a narrative of travels in the Crimea, is somewhat severe upon the Government for not having struck this tremendous blow last year. The Strait of Yenikale is closed with ice during the winter, and during the previous autumn it appears to have been barred by sinking a number of ships, as at Sebastopol. The melting of the ice in April carried away a large portion of this artificial barrier, and the opportunity of entering was seized by the Allies.

THE VALLEY OF BAIDAR.

Among the places demanding a more particular description, is the celebrated valley of Baidar. It lies to the south of Balaklava, and is rather more than ten miles in length, and six in breadth; so beautifully cultivated, that the eye roams over meadows, woods, and rich corn-fields, enclosed and intersected by green hedges and garden plantations. The villages are neat, and the inhabitants healthy. It is protected on every side from the winds that blow with great fury on the northern slopes of the mountains, and is irrigated by clear streams, that fall impetuously through the fields. The mode of enclosure, and the manner of cultivation, are somewhat like those of our own country; and travellers inform us that there is much to remind them of Kent and Surrey. The mountains, as well as the plain, were formerly thickly set with oak, wild pear, crab, and cornelian cherry-trees, which shaded the road, and kept off the scorching rays of the sun; but it is said all these have now disappeared in consequence of the devastation caused by the contending armies.

THE SEA OF AZOF.

But we must now hasten to give some brief account of the Sea of Azof, whose total length is 166 miles, and breadth 142 miles. The north coast of the sea is from 84 to 132 feet in height, generally flat, although in some parts it is bordered by low hills and reddish cliffs. Extensive strips of land, bordered by sand-banks, have formed around the promontories, and subjected as they are to the influence of the currents of the Don, have a tendency to move towards the west. This is also true of the opposite shore. The Touka, a low, narrow, long peninsula, forms the next coast of the sea, which by it is separated from the Shivarbe, or Mud Sea, an immense lagoon, into which all the rivers of the western side of the Crimea flow. The greatest depth of the sea at present is 46 feet between the Straits of Kerch and the point of Bielo-Serai, where the passage is narrow on account of the vast sand-banks. It has been remarked, that from 1706 to 1808 the depth of the sea diminished 3 feet, and from 1808 to 1833 it again diminished 3 feet; so that it has lost 6 feet of water in 127 years.

THE SPIT OF ARABAT.

The point or bank of Tchekcha, opposite Yenikale, is one of the many extraordinary spits of land which abound in this part of the world, and which are without example in any other country. Of all these, the Spit of Arabat, which is a bank but a few feet above water, and is in some places only a furlong in breadth, is the most remarkable. It is nearly 70 miles in length, and its average width is less than half a mile from sea to sea. The bank of Tchekcha (or Szavernaia Rosa), which runs for nearly eight miles in a south-westerly direction from Cape Kammenoi past Yenikale, closes up the bay of Kerch on the west, and the gulf of Taman on the east, is a type of these formations, and is sufficiently interesting to deserve a visit. It only differs from Arabat in size, and in the absence of the freshwater wells, which are to be found at long intervals on the great road from Arabat to Genitchi. It is so low that it is barely six feet above the level of the sea into which it runs. A bank of sand on both sides of the spit, piled up three or four feet in height, marks the boundary of the beach. The latter, which is a bank of shingle, shells, and fine sand, is only a few yards broad, and is terminated by the sand and rank grass

and rushes of the spit, which rise up a foot or two above the beach. In the interior or on the body of the bank there are numerous lagoons—narrow strips of water, much more salt than that of the adjacent sea. Some of these are only a few yards in length and a few feet in breadth, others extend for a quarter of a mile, and are about 100 yards broad. They are all bounded alike by thick high grass and rushes. The bottom, which is found at the depth of a few feet—often at two or three inches—consists of hard sand covered with slimy green vegetable matter. The water abounds in small flounders and dabs, and in shrimps, which leap about in wild commotion at an approaching footstep. Every league is covered with mallards and ducks, in pairs, and the fringes of the spit are the resort of pelicans and cormorants innumerable. The silence, the dreary solitude of the scene, is beyond description. Even the birds, mute as they are at this season, appear to be preternaturally quiet and voiceless. Multitudes of old, crustaceous-looking polypous plants, spring up through the reeds, and bright-coloured flycatchers, with orange breasts and black wings, poise over their nests below them.

THE COMMERCE OF THE CRIMEA.

In a commercial point of view, Rostof is the key to all the trade of the Sea of Azof and the south-eastern parts of the Russian Empire. The most important merchants have merely offices there, and live at Taganrog; which is about the same distance from Rostof as Brighton is from London. The trade of the place has undergone a marked yearly increase ever since 1835. Its prosperity is entirely owing to its convenient site, and to the large amount of foreign capital, of which it is the centre. As Odessa is the outlet for the produce of southern Polish provinces, so Rostof is one of the principal débouchés for the agricultural produce of Great Russia. From its situation it may compete with the North of Russia for a portion of the Asiatic trade, for it has nearly complete water communication with the Caspian, and has also constant dealings with the northern parts of the Caucasus. Its chief importance, however, arises from its position between the widely extended river system of Great Russia and the Southern Seas. In 1855 the total amount of imports at all the ports of the Sea of Azof was only £300,000, while the exports exceeded £3,350,000. The imports consisted wholly of articles of luxury from the Levant, as fruits, oil, and wines. Of Greek wines there were no fewer than 600,000 gallons. The principal articles exported from the Azof are wheat, linseed, rye, wool, tallow, iron, and military stores.

In the trade carried on between Russia and China, cloth is the chief article of barter, and the prices of the wool in the grease are less influenced by those which the exporter, guided by the state of the London market, is able to pay, than by the greater or less demand for Russian cloths at home and in China. The importance of Rostof as a commercial port will appear evident from the fact, that the 40,000,000 Slavonian round Moscow—the very heart and strength of the Russian empire—send through it a continually increasing portion of their labour, and would, had they the privileges of free trade, receive through it innumerable additional articles which can be more advantageously produced in countries in a higher state of civilisation than their own.

THE VARIOUS RACES OF INHABITANTS.

Of the various races now inhabiting the Crimea, and their many diversified manners and customs, it is impossible in an article like the present to speak. We refer our readers for information on these and many other points to the books recently published on Russia and its inhabitants. From one of these—Mr. H. D. Seymour's excellent work on "Russia on the Black Sea and Sea of Azof"—we give the following extracts. The first is an account of the Cossacks by the father of John Sobieski, who commanded them.

"They are chiefly," he continues, "of Russian origin, though many criminal refugees from Poland, Germany, and other countries, are to be found among them. They profess the religion of the Greek Church, and have their fixed residence in their naturally fortified places watered by the Dniester. Their business is war; and when they are shut up, as it were, in their nest, they consider it illegal to neglect athletic sports for any other pursuits. They live sparingly by hunting and fishing, and they support their wives and families by plunder. They are governed by a prefect, whose sceptre is a reed, and who is chosen in a tumultuous manner. He has absolute power of life and death, and has four counsellors to assist him. The Poles have given them the town of Trichymow in Kiovia. Long habit has fitted them for maritime warfare. They use boats, in the side of which they occasionally fasten flat bundles of reeds to buoy them up and resist the violence of the waves and winds. With these boats they sail with great rapidity, and very often take the laden Turkish vessels. Not many of them use lances (frankas), but they are all furnished with arquebuses (sclopetas), and in this kind of warfare the kings of Poland can match the intantry of all the monarchs of the world. They fortify their camps with wagons ranged in several rows; this they call 'tabur,' and make them the last refuge from an overbearing enemy. The Poles were obliged to furnish them with arms, provisions, and forage for their horses."

HABITS AND MANNERS OF THE TARTARS.

The Tartars are thus described by Mr. Seymour:—

"The Tartars in the days when they were a formidable people, are described as of middle stature, strong, with thick limbs, short neck, broad face—their eyes small, but very black and opening wide, their complexion tawny, hardened to all sort of labour and pains from their very infancy. They were dressed in sheep skins, and carried with them on their journey, a steel to strike fire, and a warriors' compass, and a sun-dial, to guide them through the desert plains where there is no beaten way. 'They ride very short,' says a French officer, 'like all the Eastern nations, and their horses, which they call bacnats, were long, lean, and ugly, with the hair of their neck thick, and great nails which down to the ground; but they are swift and indefatigable in travelling, being able to carry their riders whole days' journeys without drawing bit; and they will feed at all times, and when in winter the earth is covered with snow, which is the time the Tartars make their incursions, they live either upon what is under the snow, or upon the branches or sprouts of trees, pine tops, straw, or anything they can find.' The Tartars hardly ever used bread, but made pottage of millet, and ordinarily eat horse flesh, boiled when they were at leisure, but just heated under their saddles, and eaten raw when on a march, and the only sauce they had was the broth of the flesh from this primitive way of cooking it. They had the highest character for integrity; they did little injustice or violence, and lived in union and great tranquility."

"The domestic habits of the Tartars are very simple, and resemble those of other Oriental nations, except that they have been to a certain degree modified by contact with the Russians. When a stranger, says Clarke, arrives at a Tartar house, they conduct him to the apartment destined for the man, and present him with a basin, water, and a clean napkin, to wash his hands. They then place before him whatever their dwelling affords, of curd, cream, honey in the comb, poached eggs, roasted fowls, and fruit. After the meal is over, the basin and water are brought in as before, because all the Tartars, like the Turks and other Oriental nations, eat with their fingers, and use no forks. Then, if in the house of a rich Tartar, a long pipe is presented, of cherry-wood, which grows in the mountains, and with amber or ivory. After this, carpets and cushions are laid for the guests, that they may repose. All the houses of the Tartars, even the cottages of the poor, are extremely clean, being often whitewashed. The floor is generally of earth, but smooth, firm, dry, and covered with mats and carpets. The meanest Tartar possesses an humble dwelling, one for himself and his guest, and the other for his women. They do not allow their most intimate friends to enter the place allotted for the female part of the family. With so much cleanliness, it is surprising to find the itch prevalent. It is also difficult to escape venomous insects and vermin. The tarantula, the scorpion, cockroach, lice, bugs, fleas, flies, and ants, are more or less to be met with everywhere, but, with proper precautions, the traveller need not be much incommoded by them."

"A favourite beverage of sour milk, mixed with water, the yaurti of the Turks, is found in request with the Tartars, as among the Laplanders. They all shave their heads, both young and old, and wear in their houses a sort of skull-cap, over which, in winter, is placed a kind of helmet of wool, and in summer a turban. Their legs in winter are swathed in cloth bandages, like those worn throughout Russia, and their feet are covered by a kind of sandal. In summer both legs and feet are naked. Their shirts, like those of Turkey, are wide and loose at the sleeves, hanging down below the ends of their fingers. If they have occasion to use their hands, either to eat or work, they cast back the sleeve of the shirt upon the shoulder and leave the arm bare. The jacket or waistcoat is generally of silk or cotton, and the trousers being made very large, full, and loose, though bound tight below the knee, fall over in thick folds on the calf of the leg."

"They have no chairs in their houses, and a little short stool, about three inches high, is used for supporting a tray during their meals. This stool is often ornamented, either by carved work or inlaid mother-of-pearl. During the summer months the chief delight of the men consists in the open air, sleeping at night either beneath the shed before the door, or under the shade of the fine spreading trees which they cultivate near their houses. In the principal part of a Tartar dwelling there is a particular part which bears the name of Sopha. This is a platform raised twelve inches from the floor, occupying the entire side of the apartment, not for the purpose of a seat, but as a place for their household chests, the 'dii domestici,' and heaps of carpets, mats, cushions, and clothes. The same custom may be observed in the tents of the Kalmucks."

BURLINGTON HOUSE.

The exhibition of works of amateurs, in support of the funds for the relief of the widows and children of soldiers killed in the war with Russia, closed on Saturday last, the 14th July. As if to render the closing day as glorious as possible, the crowd of visitors was greater than we ever remember to have seen it before. Of course the pictures by the Royal children were completely surrounded. Their five works, comprising "The Knight," by the Prince of Wales; "The Battle of Balaclava," by the Princess Royal; "Princess Alice," by Prince Alfred; "Prayer," by the Princess Alice; and the "Girl Asleep," by the Princess Helena, were among the most famous of London "lions" when on view in Pall Mall; here they were lodged in more stately and more systematic fashion, and their power of attraction was proportionably increased. Ladies, who had driven long distances into town to have a peep at the "Knight in Armour," thought themselves fortunate, if, after stretching out their necks to look over the rows of portraits before them, they caught sight of even the plumes in the helmet. But that was enough; they did not come there to criticise; all they required was to be able to say at the next dinner or evening party, that they had seen the royal drawings; to satisfy their consciences when dilating on the beauty of the outline, the sweetness of the face, or the boldness of the treatment.

When the band stationed in the gardens struck up, and the music floated through the open windows in the exhibition rooms, the pictures were soon forgotten and deserted. Every body made the best of their way to the stables, hurrying off as fast as hens called to be fed. In less than half-an-hour the gardens were completely filled with the gaily-dressed company. Gentlemen hurried about until they were warm, looking about them for chairs, and ladies tried in vain to screen themselves from the searching sun, behind parasols scarcely larger than mushrooms, and would have given unheard-of sums for a glass of water, or an ice from Grange's.

Between the performance of the pieces selected for the programme, the conversation turned principally upon the loss the committee had suffered by the failure of Strahan's bank. Money collected in such a cause ought to have been held sacred by even such men as Sir J. D. Paul. We heard a gentleman regretting that the firm did not—instead of giving notice of the approaching failure to their particular friends—drop a note to the treasurer of the Exhibition, to draw out the fifteen or sixteen hundred pounds standing to his account.

The entire collection of amateur paintings is to be shortly disposed of by public auction, at the rooms of Messrs. Christie. We trust that the wealthy of the land will step forward and bid largely, and thus benefit the widows of those poor men who for their part have so nobly done their country's bidding.

GENERAL PELISSIER'S TRIBUTE TO LORD RAGLAN.

General Pelissier announces the death of Lord Raglan to the French army in the following order of the day:

GENERAL ORDER.

Death has come to surprise Field-Marshal Lord Raglan in the exercise of his command, and to plunge the English army in mourning.

We all of us partake of the regret which is felt by our brave Allies. Those who have known Lord Raglan—who have known the history of his life, so noble, so pure, so full of patriotic services—those who were witnesses of his intrepidity in the days of Alma and Inkermann—who can recall the calm and stoical grandeur of his character throughout this rough and memorable campaign—in a word, all men with hearts, will deplore the loss of such a man.

The sentiments which the General-in-Chief here expresses, will be those of the entire army. He himself is shocked by this unlooked-for blow. The general grief is increased with him in finding himself ever separated from a companion in arms whose cordial spirit he loved, whose virtues he admired, and with whom he always found loyal and affectionate concurrence.

At the General Quarters before Sebastopol, June 29, 1855.

(Signed)

The General-in-Chief, PELISSIER.

LORD RAGLAN'S REMAINS.

On the body being embarked at Kamiesch the French lined the road for six miles, and the funeral procession was conducted with the greatest respect and decorum, and was received by Admiral Stewart and a large number of boats forming a funeral procession. The respect shown by the French was something beautiful, and endeared them to the friends of Lord Raglan.

At Constantinople, Lord de Redcliffe and suite paid a visit of ceremony to the *Caradoc*, the vessel bearing the remains, and on her arrival at Malta, on the morning of the 10th, the Union Jack was hoisted half-mast high, and every demonstration of mourning made.

Commander Derriman brings the *Caradoc* home, having been in close attendance on Lord Raglan since he has been in the East, and on his promotion for his personal gallantry at Alma, he was kept in command of the vessel at Lord Raglan's particular request. He lately distinguished himself in joining the French in their assault upon the Mamelon, and was so far ahead that he was taken for a Russian, and sent to the rear as a prisoner.

The following despatch, from Lieutenant-General Simpson, was received by Lord Pamure on Wednesday last:—

Before Sebastopol, July 7, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the remains of our late lamented Commander-in-Chief, Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, were removed from Headquarters to Kazatch Bay, on Tuesday the 3d inst., and placed on board her Majesty's ship *Caradoc*, which departed for England that same evening.

Nothing could be more imposing than the whole line of the funeral procession. The day was fine, and the appearance of the troops splendid; as many as could be spared from duty in the trenches, and with safety to their camp, were collected, and the procession moved from the door of this house exactly at four o'clock p.m.

(General Simpson here gives the order of the procession, which we omit.) Everything was well conducted, and no accident occurred.

Thus terminated the last honours that could be paid by his troops to their beloved commander. His loss to us here is inexpressible; and will, I am sure, be equally felt by his country at home. The sympathy of our Allies is universal and sincere. His name and memory are all that remain to animate us in the difficulties and dangers to which we may be called.

I have, &c.,

JAMES SIMPSON,

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

The Mayor of Bristol has issued a notice, that, upon the arrival of the steamer at Bristol with the remains of the late Lord Raglan (with a view to their interment in the family vault at Badminton), the civic authorities will be in attendance and follow the body in procession through the city to its boundary. The Mayor also expresses his hope that the citizens will close their places of business on the occasion.

LORD RAGLAN AT THE AFFAIR OF THE 18TH.—Lord Raglan was at the attack; he was close by our Regiment all the time, and I never saw a man in such a way in all my life as he was. He called first for one officer and then for another; then he would call for his spy-glass, and then, perhaps, sit down. You should have heard him abuse the Commanding Officer of the 34th Regiment. Lord Raglan told him, that if he had only sent a company of the 49th, they would have taken the Redan, or not a man of them would have come back alive.—*Private Letter from the Camp.*

THE GUARDS SHOWING THE WHITE FEATHER.—The Guards, I am sorry to say, have thoroughly disgraced themselves, and the whole of the Line are crying shame upon them. They were sent into the trenches the other night, and ran away from their posts, and the 72nd Regiment had to hold their position. The Guards left their grog behind, which the 72nd obliged them by drinking.—*Private Letter from the Camp.*

LORD RAGLAN AND GENERAL CANROBERT.—It is now stated, in justice to the memory of the dead, that the inaction of the allied army, during the early part of this year, was mainly owing to the scruples of the French, and not of the English, general.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

On the 3rd a Russian soldier, a corporal in one of the picked regiments of the Guards, deserted to the flag-ship, and gave most important information respecting the fortifications of Cronstadt and the distribution of the troops: he says that in the ranks of the latter, among the latest recruits are to be found old gray-headed men, and boys not more than 16.

On the morning of the 5th the *Princess Alice* proceeded towards Cronstadt with a flag of truce, and bearing a letter from the Commander-in-Chief to the Russian Minister of War. She was met by a steamer from the harbour, who received the despatch and both vessels returned. Every day, Sundays not excepted, the enemy exercise the mortar batteries along the northern sea-wall. Some of the mortars have an immense range.

On the evening of the 6th the Commander-in-Chief tried the range of a 32-pounder gun, which had been slung in a peculiar manner, at an angle of 45 degrees, in one of the wood boats captured a few days ago. The boat was moored across the stern of the flag-ship, and three or four shots fired; the fall of the first in the water was eagerly watched for, but it took so long a time before it fell, that it was given up; but in a few seconds exclamations of astonishment burst forth as a small column of spray rose in the air at a distance of more than 5,000 yards, or over three miles; the shot took exactly 31 seconds for its flight. The boat was then towed a little nearer the shore, opposite one of the new mortar batteries, near the Governor's house, and a couple of shots fired to ascertain if they were within range. Both shots went a long way over the battery, which immediately returned an ineffectual fire with mortars that would not carry the distance. These are, perhaps, the first shots from an enemy that ever alighted on the Island of Cronstadt. About an hour before dusk a small boat was seen creeping along the north shore towards St. Petersburg; two gunboats were sent to stop it, and returned about 11 p.m. with it in tow. It contained three fishermen, who were trying to take three or four kegs of sprats to market; after being examined and cautioned, they were allowed to go away.

On the 7th, the French and English Commanders-in-Chief proceeded to reconnoitre the South Passage, and approached within 2,500 yards of the Risbank Battery, which fired several shots at them, but all fell short; one, however, came in a good direction, about 150 yards astern of the vessel. While the Admirals were away, two Russian gunboats came out of the northern passage and proceeded along the shores to the westward. The *Maggie* and *Lark* gunboats went immediately to cut them off from returning, and would most probably have succeeded had their recoil not been made by the flag-ship, and enforced by several guns. They, however, continued their course until within range of the chase, fired a single gun each at them, and to the astonishment of everybody, turned their heads round and came back to the fleet as fast as they could. The Russian boats quietly proceeded into harbour; the decks of both were crowded with people, some in uniform and others in plain clothes. Most likely they were excursionists, who came out to obtain a nearer view of the fleet. The weather continues very hot and sultry; at times there is not a breath of wind, and the water is covered with a dirty green scum, like a stagnant pond in England.

Large numbers of the Russians are busily employed in still further increasing the defences of Cronstadt. On every available plot of ground facing the sea, batteries are in course of construction; even the last resting-places of the dead are now included in the line of fortifications of that island.

According to the latest advices, the Russian military authorities encourage as much as possible the immigration into the interior of the inhabitants of the Baltic ports, especially those residing at Abo and Helsingfors. The artisans and the poorer classes are compelled to remain to obtain the means of subsistence. Throughout the entire length of the Gulf of Finland, especially on the main road from Helsingfors towards St. Petersburg, the enemy's troops are constantly receiving reinforcements. A Cossack sergeant, who had been 17 years in the Russian army, and who deserted about the 9th, from the garrison of Cronstadt, states that there are 60,000 well-disciplined soldiers on that island, 10,000 of them being Poles, who would rejoice at having an opportunity of joining the Allied forces, and at being liberated from the dominion of their present taskmaster.

DESTRUCTION OF SVARTHOLM AND LOVISA, AND OF 20,000 TONS OF SHIPPING AT NYSTAD.

A DESPATCH from Rear-Admiral Dundas, states that on July 7, he received a report from Captain Yelverton, respecting the destruction of the fort at Svartholm. The Captain in his despatch says:—

"Svartholm was in good condition, and a work of great strength, entirely commanding the approaches to Lovisa; it has had important additions of late years, can mount 122 guns, and had accommodation in casemated barracks for about 1,000 men, with governor's house and garden, and excellent officers' quarters. I made immediate arrangements for blowing up the fort and completely destroying the barracks; these have since been fully carried out.

"On the 5th I made a reconnaissance of the town of Lovisa, in the *Ruby*, accompanied by the boats of the *Arrogant* and *Anglicienne*. A strong detachment of Cossacks made their appearance at one time, but they were dispersed by the fire from the boats, the rockets particularly throwing them into great confusion. On landing at Lovisa I sent for the authorities, and explained the object of my visit; some denial was caused by our not having a flag of truce. I told them they had no right to such a guarantee, as the respect due to it had been so grossly violated at Hangö. I then proceeded to the barracks and government stores within the town, which I destroyed, but did not set fire to them, as by so doing the whole town must have been burnt.

This precaution was not destined to save Lovisa, for during the night an accidental fire occurred in a portion of the town where we had not been, and before morning the whole place was reduced to ashes."

The following is an extract of a letter from Rear-Admiral Dundas, of the same date as the above:—

"I cannot conclude this letter without calling particular attention to the active exertions of Captain Storey, of her Majesty's ship *Harrier*, which led a few days later to the destruction of twenty thousand tons of Russian shipping discovered afterwards in another anchorage near Nystad."

PLUNDER AT KERTCH BY A NAVAL OFFICER.

(Extract of a Letter from our Correspondent.)

CAPTAIN LORING, in the *Furios*, was sent by Sir Edmund Lyons to assist the land commanders in protecting private property at Kertch, and was very active in his exertions to check the plunder that was going on. His vigilance was, however, especially necessary to prevent his own men from helping themselves, for Jack has a great regard for "curios," as he calls them, and would incur any amount of danger to obtain even a picture of the Virgin Mary—so that it is "Russian," Jack is satisfied, although he by no means objects to things more substantial if he can obtain them. Captain Loring intercepted one boat's crew who had possession of a very fine pig. He compelled them to abandon the unclean animal, and gave them a good blow-up in lieu of the glorious blow-out they were anticipating off their prize. The midshipman in charge of the boat's crew, belonging to the *Sidon*, was moreover disgraced for permitting the capture. Now, Jack, who is by no means slow in drawing comparisons, thinks it very hard that he was deprived of his pig, while a commander of a gunboat was allowed to take an armed boat's crew on shore for the express purpose of removing the bell from a church; thus compelling Jack to rob the church, and find his own tools to do it with—an act which Jack considers very much in the light of a crime. If Captain Loring were aware of the fact of a commander of one of the gunboats having actually landed with an armed crew, and carried off a church bell in open day, in the face of the old priest, who held up his hands in supplication, repeating "Catholique! Catholique!" and while he (Captain Loring) was in charge of the town, we certainly think that the midshipman of the *Sidon*, no less than the boat's crew, was hardly dealt by. The pig was most likely afterwards taken by the French as a fair spoil of war; but our gallant Allies thought it their duty to afford what protection they could to this very church by placing a flag at the door.

LORD DUNDONALD'S PLAN.

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the *Morning Post*:—

SIR,—It appears, by a reply to a question put for the fourth time in the House of Commons (on the 6th instant), that my "plans were referred to a committee, and were so very obvious that they required no explanation from Lord Dundonald to render them perfectly intelligible." Be it whether this facility of comprehension arises from circumstances easily patible with their practicality and efficiency, or from their being manifestly absurd and beneath notice, does not appear. Thus the topic is another instance of the oracular mode of elucidating official questions of great national importance.

It seems quite useless longer to trespass on public attention by expounding against such enigmatical modes of proceeding, or to submit professional hints to non-professional authorities. But it may be well to prepare the public mind for the consequences of (a rare occurrence) a naval strategem, which will not fail to be put in practice in order to defeat the long-foretold bombardment of Cronstadt—namely, by an ambush of numerous row galleys, held in readiness to pull round the eastern end of the island, and attack the battering vessels in flank. To counteract the effect of such superior force, I assert that there is no adequate means, except by the employment, to their full extent, of my plans—our gunboats, having high pressure boilers, being ill-suited to make prolonged resistance.

Desirous as I am to promote the success of her Majesty's arms, and the interests of our country, I feel that it would be to me a cruel injustice to find the execution of my plans, or any part of my plans, transferred to other officers, especially after having kept them secret for 40 years, on the hope of that personal honour. I cannot, therefore, credit a rumour in circulation, that it is contemplated to use the protective innocuous portion of my plans, under the plea that it has been offered by some other person, which may well be, considering the publicity that has recently been forced upon me; indeed, I should not be surprised if similar communications have reached St. Petersburg.—I am, sir, your obliged and obedient servant,

DUNDONALD.

London, 14th July, 1855.

PROMOTION BY FAVOUR.—A "death vacancy" among the lieutenants occurred a few days ago in the Naval Brigade before Sebastopol, and, by the usual custom of the service, should have been conferred on one of those who had worked with it all along, but Sir Edmund Lyons selected for promotion a midshipman serving in the *St. Jean d'Ive*, who happens to be a son of Sir James Graham; directed that a board should be held to pass him to his next step—that of a mate; and before he had been in that rank, a dozen hours, signalled for him to come to breakfast, and handed to him his commission as lieutenant. Very many hard-working and deserving mates now with the brigade, and of some years' standing in the service, have been passed over to make room for a youngster of 19 years of age.

TROPHIES OF WAR.—I send you two visiting cards, which one of our men took out of the drawing-room of a very fine house, plundered in the town. The inhabitants never fancied we could get so far, and so were routed out in a hurry, leaving a capital cold lunch of chicken and hock, with wine, on the table, and an old nurse and four little children in the nursery. One of the 38th actually carried off a little baby, and they say it is now alive. (This child was subsequently delivered up to the Russians, during the truce.) I have got a telescope, and a lot of nursery books, and our camp is full of pigeons, guinea pigs, pistols, books, a general's cocked hat, swords, &c., all from this house, which evidently belonged to some body of high rank, it was so beautifully furnished.—*Letter from the Camp.*

COSTUME IN ST. PETERSBURG.—The reform of costume is continuing at St. Petersburg. In a short time, all the police of the city will be dressed in the "polakof," that is, with large boots and Cossack trousers. The Russians see in this return to the old national costume, a sort of victory, over the "Nemetsk" or German party.

SALTPIETRE WANTED.—A notice has been issued by the Russian Ministry for War, that in future no contracts will be needed for deliveries of saltpetre, and that all persons having that article to dispose of, may send it in any quantity to the Imperial powder mills at Sebastopol, in the province of Tchernigov, where it will be received by the government officers, and the quality examined, after which the payment will be made without any reduction.

SCENE AT THE TRENCHES.—A supper was brought from the trenches with his jaw broken, and a piece of it sticking out more than an inch from his face. The man said it was done by a round shot; the doctor shook his head, but the poor fellow insisted, and said, "Yes, and it took off the head of the man next me." This was conclusive, and the surgeon proceeded to remove the bone. It came out quite easy, and the doctor said, "Can you move your jaw?" "Oh, yes, sir," was the reply. The doctor then put his finger into the man's mouth, and found the teeth were there, and at length assured the soldier that it was no jaw of his that was broken, but that of his headless comrade, which had actually been driven into his face, inflicting a severe, but not dangerous wound. Upon this the man's visage, which had been rather lengthened, rounded up most perceptibly.

A WHIM OF THE CAESAR.—The marine artist, Evzyovskoy, has received directions from the present Emperor of Russia to revive on canvas, from memory, the Russian vessels which were destroyed for the purpose of obscuring the progress of the enemy.

RUSSIAN ENVOIES IN ENGLAND.—It has been ascertained that M. Petersen, the Russian Secretary of Legation at Lisbon, went to France with the King of Portugal, crossed over to England, and left Southampton for Lisbon in the *Yagus* mail packet, on the 17th of last month. This is the third time M. Petersen has visited England since the war with Russia. The object of these visits to England is to get saltpetre shipped from Russia to some German port via Lisbon. M. Ozeroff, the Russian ambassador at Lisbon since the war, went to Lisbon from England in a British steamer, with an Austrian passport.

ANOTHER AUSTRIAN OUTRAGE.—At a late hour in the night of June 21, two Austrian soldiers broke into a public-house, at Harlequin, kept by one Donatien Angell. The landlord being awakened by his wife, and told that robbers were in the house, rose from his bed and hid half of one of them. The soldiers, however, got off, leaving Angell in a desperate condition, with five lacerated wounds, and carrying with them 160 pence taken from the till, and several kitchen utensils.

THE MUSEUM AT KERTCH.—Admiral Bruat, in a letter to the French Minister of Marine, states, that the mischief done at Kertch has been greatly exaggerated; that the Museum of Antiquities had long before given up its most valuable collections; that the medals, amongst other rare objects, had completely disappeared, but there remained some bas-reliefs, which the commandant of the *Pradon* collected and packed under seal. On the whole, he does not think that so much has been done to regret the destruction which has taken place in the Museum at Kertch. Some urns in terra cotta, and some vitreous ware, have been broken; but valuable articles had been previously removed by the owners, and the care of the commandant of the *Pradon* have still further contributed to reduce the losses.

SIR G. BROWN.—It is said that the health of this gallant officer is extremely impaired, and that no vicarious improvement has taken place since his removal from the scene of hostilities in the Crimea. He has been ordered to repair to England, as the only source likely to prove beneficial in his critical state, and not to journey at Malta, where he had arrived in the *Nubia*, to endeavour to recruit his shattered constitution.

THE CAESAR AND HIS SOLDIERS.—The Russian Emperor, while recently inspecting the Cadets, among whom were a corps of young Cossacks, walked up and down the ranks saluting the young soldiers, receiving in return the most enthusiastic acclamations. The exercises over, the Emperor made the youths form a circle round him, and then expressed to them his satisfaction with their conduct, and his confidence in their devotion. His words were received with frantic applause, and when he was about to leave, the circle closed round him, and the cry was raised of "Let your Majesty stay a little while amongst us; we shall not see him much longer, for his glory and the glory of our country call us to arms!" The Emperor remained a quarter of an hour with the youthful soldiers, and, on parting, saluted them with the utmost tenderness.

HELGOLAND.—It is now positively stated that England, taking up the old project of the Liverpool ministry, will, at no distant period, convert the island of Helgoland into a fortress of the first rank, which will command the North Sea as Malta and Gibraltar do the Mediterranean.

ABOLITION OF DUELLING IN SPAIN.—The editors of the political journals of Madrid have established a Court of Honour, specially charged to examine into and arrange personal disputes which might arise in consequence of articles published, and thus prevent the frequent recurrence of duels. The salutary effects produced by this institution have induced the editors of the non-political press to organise a similar court, which has just been duly installed. It is said that the members of the public press in several of the chief provincial towns have it in contemplation to adopt a similar measure.

THE FINAL DEMONSTRATION IN HYDE PARK.

On the afternoon of Sunday last, the aristocratic region surrounding Hyde Park was again invaded by the "ferocious democracy" of the teeming metropolis. In obedience to a summons, circulated during the previous week, ten or twelve thousand persons assembled to express their dissatisfaction with the Beer Bill. Many of them were respectable in appearance, but a large proportion consisted of boys and lads bent on indulging their spirit of mischief, and of juvenile members of the "light-fingered gentry," eager for an opportunity of pursuing their dexterous avocation.

The authorities had taken the necessary precautions, and the police, who were in great force in the neighbourhood of the Park, and at the various stations, took steps, as on the preceding Sunday, to prevent disturbance, by directing carriages to avoid the great drive. Most of the carriages did so, and the few vehicles which took the usual route were allowed to pass along without any interruption from the crowd. About three o'clock, a half-tipsy man, shabbily dressed, stood upon the protruding roots of a tree, which served as a rostrum whence to address to those in his immediate vicinity a long rambling speech, the wisest part of which probably was the concluding sentence, in which he announced his intention of going home directly.

At this stage of the proceedings, some one cried out, "A watch, a watch." It was then discovered that some one had stolen a watch belonging to a naval officer. Immediately, the crowd began to run away, and the several hundred juvenile thieves, who were well known to the police, followed, crying out, "Let us go to the squares." The whole of those nearest to the Serpentine rushed en masse towards Chesham Place, but they had scarcely reached St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, when a body of police approached, and at once fell into such order that the people were prevented from following.

Nearly every nobleman's house in the squares near Belgravia was so guarded by the servants that it would have been extremely dangerous for any of the rabble to have attempted to make any attack upon the premises, for, independent of the police, the occupants were armed with stout wooden staves.

THE SANATORY STATE OF THE THAMES.

For some time past a most noxious smell has arisen from the river Thames. At first it was thought it arose merely from the action of the hot sun upon the deep mud banks at the sides of the river. The stench from them at any time had been enough, but at this time the water of the Thames, never very pellucid, has become positively so bad as to be most dangerous to the public health. The water looks like so much thick coffee-ground, and stinks most abominably—so bad is it that the captains and men of the steamboats plying above bridge can scarcely continue their duties. Higher up the river it is even worse. Above Hammersmith, one morning very recently, the shores were covered with dead fish—wagons-loads might, without exaggeration, have been collected. If, then, the water is so impure that fish cannot live in it, it may easily be conceived how prejudicial it must be to the public health. And now as to the cause. It appears that the Brent canal, debouching into the river at Brentford, has long been in a foul state, and the proprietors are having it cleaned out, and have caused the collection of abominations that have been accumulated for years, to be discharged into the river Thames. The Thames at all times is bad enough; but it is too bad that individuals should be permitted to endanger not only the health, but even the lives of the people; and, as if to make matters worse, they have chosen the very worst possible time of the year for the work. There has been a long cold spring, in which it was permitted them to carry on their operations with impunity. Instead of that, however, they have chosen the period when there was most danger. The Minister of Health in the House of Commons, while admitting and condemning the proceeding, stated that he had no power to interfere. Remonstrances have been made to the Home Secretary, but without avail; the same lack of power being confessed. But, if we mistake not, there is yet an authority who can and ought immediately to interfere before it is too late. By virtue of his office, the Lord Mayor is conservator of the river Thames from Gravesend to Staines Bridge. He can prevent refuse, such as ashes from steamboats, or the discharges from gas-works, being thrown into the river. If he has power in these two instances, surely he can take immediate steps not only to put a stop to the nuisance, but to punish the offenders. The inhabitants have already, within the last seven years, been visited by two destructive pestilences; and who can tell but that cholera is at hand? The Registrar-General, in his last weekly return, sounded a note of warning. Six persons had died from the disease in the previous week, the worst and most rapidly fatal case being that of a labouring man living on the banks of the now pestilential Thames at Battersea. The warning being given, no time should be lost in preparing for even the possible danger of another outbreak, and the first step to be taken should be to stop the nuisance at Brentford. In addition, however, to the danger to health caused by the nuisances, there is a large class of very poor people who will be positively ruined. We refer to the poor fishermen who live on the banks of the river from Hammersmith to Richmond. Their calling is quite gone, for the fish is nearly all destroyed; and what makes matters worse is, that there are no means by which they can obtain redress or compensation.

THE CRIMEA.

GEOLOGICAL FEATURES OF THE CRIMEA—ITS MOUNTAINS AND STEPPES.

The general form of the Crimea, of which we give this week a large and elaborate engraving, is, by this time, more or less familiar to every one. It is the southern portion of the Steppes of Russia, with the important distinction, that its southern portion is raised by volcanic action to a great height, sometimes reaching to more than 4,000 feet above the level of the Black Sea. A range of mountains, elevated by this cause, runs nearly N.E. and S.W. from Balaklava to Kafia (or Theodosia). These mountains themselves occupy a considerable space; they are generally flat-topped, and contain within their range high plains, resembling the high meadows called "alps" in Switzerland, which are termed in the Tartar language "yaita." In these elevated plains alone is pasture to be found during the heats of the summer,—that is, from the end of June till the middle of September, or even later. On the south side of the mountain range there is a sort of undercliff, protected from the cold winds of the north by the wall of mountain which backs it, and in this the fertility of the soil vies with the exquisite beauty of the scenery. A road constructed by Prince Woronzow runs from the plateau now occupied by the Allied forces through the valley of Baidar, and, approaching the coast, traverses this region as far as Alouchna, where it turns northwards towards Simpheropol. After proceeding about twelve miles, the highest mountain in the Crimea, the Tchatir-Dagh (Tent Mountain) rises immediately on the left. The traveller, up to this point, has been ascending all the way from Alouchna, but here, after passing a defile called Demir-kapou (Iron-gate), he descends the valley of the Angar, one of the affluents of the Salghir, the largest of the streams of the peninsula, and thence proceeds on a good road, with a general descent, to Simpheropol. The Tent Mountain, which derives its name from the resemblance of its upper portion to the tents of the Nogai Tartars, is composed of red marble. It may be ascended from its eastern side; and at the height of more than 4,000 feet above the sea, presents the appearance of a flat table-land four or five miles in length, and two miles broad, covered with fine pasture, on which feed numerous flocks of sheep. From this low table rises another 700 or 800 feet high, the form of which gives the name to the whole mountain. We will suppose the reader to ascend this, and from his elevated position take a view of the scene around him.

So far as his eye meets the mountain range of which the Tchatir-Dagh is the highest summit—it being no less than 5,125 feet—he will discover nothing but exquisite beauty in whatever direction he turns. In the "yaitas" he will see endless flocks and herds, and in the sheltered nooks Tartar villages, orchards, and vineyards. The sea in the immediate neighbourhood adds its peculiar charm to the view, and the whole presents a picture in which sublimity and softness are combined to a degree rarely, if ever, equalled. But if the spectator turns to the northward or westward, he will observe a strange contrast. In the former direction, Simpheropol, the Russian capital of the Crimea, will seem, from the great

height at which he is, to lie almost beneath his feet, and beyond it he will see spread out an uninterrupted plain of monotonous gray colour, which stretches out not only as far as the Isthmus of Percep, but a couple of hundred miles further. The same appearance will be presented beyond Bakhchiseraï, where the mountains appear to terminate to the westward; so that, in fact, he may imagine himself standing upon a huge island surrounded by two oceans, the one of blue sea, the other of dull gray steppes. This latter region it is which renders nugatory the enormous hosts of Russia when directed against an enemy who has command of the sea. If two irregular lines be drawn—the one within the peninsula from Kafia, through Suva Crim, Karas-Bazar, Simpheropol, and Bakhchiseraï to the mouth of the Belbek river, just north of Sebastopol, the other from Bender, on the Dniester, in a north-eastern direction, through Kromentchoug, Potowa, and Izoum, to Saratoff, on the Volga, the country contained between these limits possesses, with trifling exceptions, one monotonous character—namely, that of a vast undulating plain, bare of wood, covered in spring and early summer with a rank vegetation, and in winter with deep snow. Owing to the horizontal position and uniform quality of the strata of which it is composed, the rain which falls upon it does not sink through, and remain stored up below the surface, as is the case in porous soils, and those which have receptacles in their interior where the water which has percolated may collect.

THE CLIMATE OF THE CRIMEA.

In the steppes of southern Russia, too, the highest point in the whole extent is a small hill only 240 feet in height, and the difference in elevation scarcely averages more than 50 feet; consequently, there is no opportunity for the existence of springs. The rain, when in such abundance as to do more than saturate the ground on which it falls, forms a torrent, following the varying undulations of the surface, and cutting a channel for itself in the same manner as may be seen, on a small scale, on a turpentine road in England, after a thunderstorm, until it at last collects in some hollow, and forms a lake, a pond, or a swamp, according to the shape of the receptacle and the abundance of the supply. After the melting of the snows in the spring the whole country is for a time a wilderness of mud, over which no wheeled carriage can pass, intersected by ravines formed by the running surface water in the course of a succession of years. As the country becomes dry and the power of the sun increases, there springs up a coarse vegetation sometimes of more than six feet high, of low plants rather than grasses. In the month of July these are entirely burnt up by the want of moisture; the water-courses are dried up; and the flocks and herds, the principal tenants of these melancholy regions, are forced to take refuge in the neighbourhood of the swampy pools which exist here and there in the hollows, finding upon their banks a pasturage which, however coarse, is more palatable than the stalks of the burian, which alone remain elsewhere. As the summer advances the heat becomes more and more insupportable, the pools of water disappear, the sky becomes lazy, and the sun, at setting, reminds the traveller of the blood-red hue which it assumes in the Arabian deserts; a scorching wind blows from the north-east, equally destructive to vegetable and animal life, and filling the air with clouds of dust. Every now and then rain-clouds collect, and give a promise of some relief to the parched soil, but the upward current of hot air from the ground carries them away seaward, and their precious contents are discharged upon "the unfruitful brine." This state of things continues generally till the middle of September, when the autumnal rains commence, and call forth a new birth of vegetation. In November the tempests of winter return, and with them a new form of desolation throughout the steppes. Hurricanes are very common during the next four months, raising snow-drifts which bury man and beast beneath them. The terrified cattle, when caught in one of these, become panic-stricken, and disperse in all directions, sometimes running headlong into the sea, or the water-courses which seam the steppes. These storms last usually about three days, but have sometimes been known to continue as many weeks.

THE CRIMEA IN A MILITARY POINT OF VIEW.

It is obvious that the possession of the whole peninsula of the Crimea virtually depends upon the possession of the mountain region which has been described as lying like an island at the extremity of this singular country; and this question must be settled in favour of the belligerent who succeeds the best in pouring in regular supplies of men, food, and munitions of war. It would be hardly too much to say that the problem is a simple one of transport. The command of the Sea of Azof has not only destroyed at one stroke the greater half of the maritime commerce of Russia, but has deprived her army in the Crimea of the means of obtaining either reinforcements or food by any other channel than the passage across the steppes. Over these barren wastes must every man and every sack of flour be brought since the day when the gallant Lyons cleared the Sea of Azof of the enemy's transports. Mr. Seymour, who has just published a narrative of travels in the Crimea, is somewhat severe upon the Government for not having struck this tremendous blow last year. The Strait of Yenikale is closed with ice during the winter, and during the previous autumn it appears to have been barred by sinking a number of ships, as at Sebastopol. The melting of the ice in April carried away a large portion of this artificial barrier, and the opportunity of entering was seized by the Allies.

THE VALLEY OF BAIDAR.

Among the places demanding a more particular description, is the celebrated valley of Baidar. It lies to the south of Balaklava, and is rather more than ten miles in length, and six in breadth; so beautifully cultivated, that the eye roams over meadows, woods, and rich corn-fields, enclosed and intersected by green hedges and garden plantations. The villages are neat, and the inhabitants healthy. It is protected on every side from the winds that blow with great fury on the northern slopes of the mountains, and is irrigated by clear streams, that fall imperceptibly through the fields. The mode of enclosure, and the manner of cultivation, are somewhat like those of our own country; and travellers inform us that there is much to remind them of Kent and Surrey. The mountains, as well as the plain, were formerly thickly set with oak, wild pear, crab, and cornelian cherry-trees, which shaded the road, and kept off the scorching rays of the sun; but it is said all these have now disappeared in consequence of the devastation caused by the contending armies.

THE SEA OF AZOF.

But we must now hasten to give some brief account of the Sea of Azof, whose total length is 166 miles, and breadth 142 miles. The north coast of the sea is from 84 to 132 feet in height, generally flat, although in some parts it is bordered by low hills and reddish cliffs. Extensive strips of land, bordered by sand-banks, have formed around the promontories, and subjected as they are to the influence of the currents of the Don, have a tendency to move towards the west. This is also true of the opposite shore. The Touka, a low, narrow, long peninsula, forms the next coast of the sea, which by it is separated from the Shivarbe, or Mud Sea, an immense lagoon, into which all the rivers of the western side of the Crimea flow. The greatest depth of the sea at present is 46 feet between the Straits of Kertch and the point of Bido-Seraï, where the passage is narrow on account of the vast sand-banks. It has been remarked, that from 1706 to 1808 the depth of the sea diminished 3 feet, and from 1808 to 1833 it again diminished 3 feet; so that it has lost 6 feet of water in 127 years.

THE SPIT OF ARABAT.

The point or bank of Tchekha, opposite Yenikale, is one of the many extraordinary spits of land which abound in this part of the world, and which are without example in any other country. Of all these, the Spit of Arabat, which is a bank but a few feet above water, and is in some places only a furlong in breadth, is the most remarkable. It is nearly 70 miles in length, and its average width is less than half a mile from sea to sea. The bank of Tchekha (or Szavernaia Rosa), which runs for nearly eight miles in a south-westerly direction from Cape Kammenoi past Yenikale, closes up the bay of Kertch on the west, and the gulf of Tamun on the east, is a type of these formations, and is sufficiently interesting to deserve a visit. It only differs from Arabat in size, and in the absence of the freshwater wells, which are to be found at long intervals on the great road from Arabat to Genitchi. It is so low that it is barely six feet above the level of the sea into which it runs. A bank of sand on both sides of the spit, piled up three or four feet in height, marks the boundary of the beach. The latter, which is a bank of shingle, shells, and fine sand, is only a few yards broad, and is terminated by the sand and rank grass

and rushes of the spit, which rise up a foot or two above the level. In the interior or on the body of the bank there are numerous "beacons"—narrow strips of water, much more salt than that of the adjacent sea. Some of these are only a few yards in length and a few feet in breadth, others extend for a quarter of a mile, and are about 100 yards broad. They are all bounded alike by thick high grass and rushes. The bottom, which is found at the depth of a few feet—often at two or three inches—consists of hard sand covered with some green vegetable matter. The water abounds in small flounders and dabs, and in shrimps, which leap about in wild commotion at an approaching footstep. Every lagoon is covered with mallards and ducks, in pairs, and the fringes of the spit are the resort of pelicans and cormorants innumerable. The shore, the dreary solitude of the scene, is beyond description. Even the birds, mute as they are at this season, appear to be preternaturally quiet and voiceless. Multitudes of old, crustaceous-looking polypous plants, spring up through the reeds, and bright-coloured flycatchers, with orange breasts and black wings, poise over their nests below them.

THE COMMERCE OF THE CRIMEA.

In a commercial point of view, Rostof is the key to all the trade of the Sea of Azof and the south-eastern parts of the Russian Empire. The most important merchants have merely offices there, and live at Taganrog; which is about the same distance from Rostof as Brighton is from London. The trade of the place has undergone a marked yearly increase ever since 1835. Its prosperity is entirely owing to its convenient site, and to the large amount of foreign capital, of which it is the centre. As Odessa is the outlet for the produce of southern Polish provinces, so Rostof is one of the principal débouchés for the agricultural produce of Great Russia. From its situation it may compete with the North of Russia for a portion of the Asiatic trade, for it has nearly complete water communication with the Caspian, and has also constant dealings with the northern parts of the Caucasus. Its chief importance, however, arises from its position between the widely extended river system of Great Russia and the Southern Seas. In 1853 the total amount of imports at all the ports of the Sea of Azof was only £300,000, while the exports exceeded £435,000. The imports consisted wholly of articles of luxury from the Caucasus, such as fruits, oil, and wines. Of Greek wines there were no fewer than 600,000 gallons. The principal articles exported from the Azof are wheat, mixed, rye, wool, tallow, iron, and military stores.

In the trade carried on between Russia and China, cloth is the chief article of barter, and the prices of the wool in the grease are less influenced by those which the export is, guided by the state of the London market, is able to pay, than by the greater or less demand for Russian cloth at home and in China. The importance of Rostof as a commercial port will appear evident from the fact, that the 10,000,000 Slavonians round Moscow—the very heart and strength of the Russian empire—send through it a continually increasing portion of their labour, and would, had they the privileges of free trade, receive through it innumerable additional articles which can be more advantageously produced in countries in a higher state of civilization than their own.

THE VARIOUS RACES OF INHABITANTS.

Of the various races now inhabiting the Crimea, and their many diversified manners and customs, it is impossible in an article like the present to speak. We refer our readers for information on those and on any other points to the books recently published on Russia and its inhabitants. From one of these—Mr. H. D. Seymour's excellent work on "Russia on the Black Sea and Sea of Azof"—we give the following extracts. The first is an account of the Cossacks by the father of John Sobieski, who commanded them.

"They are chiefly," he continues, "of Russian origin, though many criminal refugees from Poland, Germany, and other countries, are to be found among them. They profess the religion of the Greek Church, and have their fixed residence in their naturally fortified places watered by the Dnieper. Their business is war; and when they are shut up, as it were, in their nest, they consider it illegal to neglect athletic sports for any other pursuits. They live sparingly by hunting and fishing, and they support their wives and families by plunder. They are government by a prefect, whose seipre is a rod, and who is chosen in a tumultuous manner. He has absolute power of life and death, and has four counsellors to assist him. The Poles have given them the town of Hyatynow in Kiovia. Long habit has fitted them for maritime warfare. They use boats, in the side of which they occasionally fasten thick bundles of reeds to buoy them up and resist the violence of the waves and winds. With these boats they sail with great rapidity, and very often take the laden Turkish vessels. Not many of them use lances (drumils), but they are all furnished with rapier-swords (scopets), and in this kind of warfare the kings of Poland can match the bravery of all the monarchs of the world. They fortify their camps with wagons ranged in several rows, they call 'tabur,' and make them the last place from an overbearing enemy. The Poles were obliged to furnish them with arms, provisions, and forage for their horses."

HABITS AND MANNERS OF THE TARTARS.

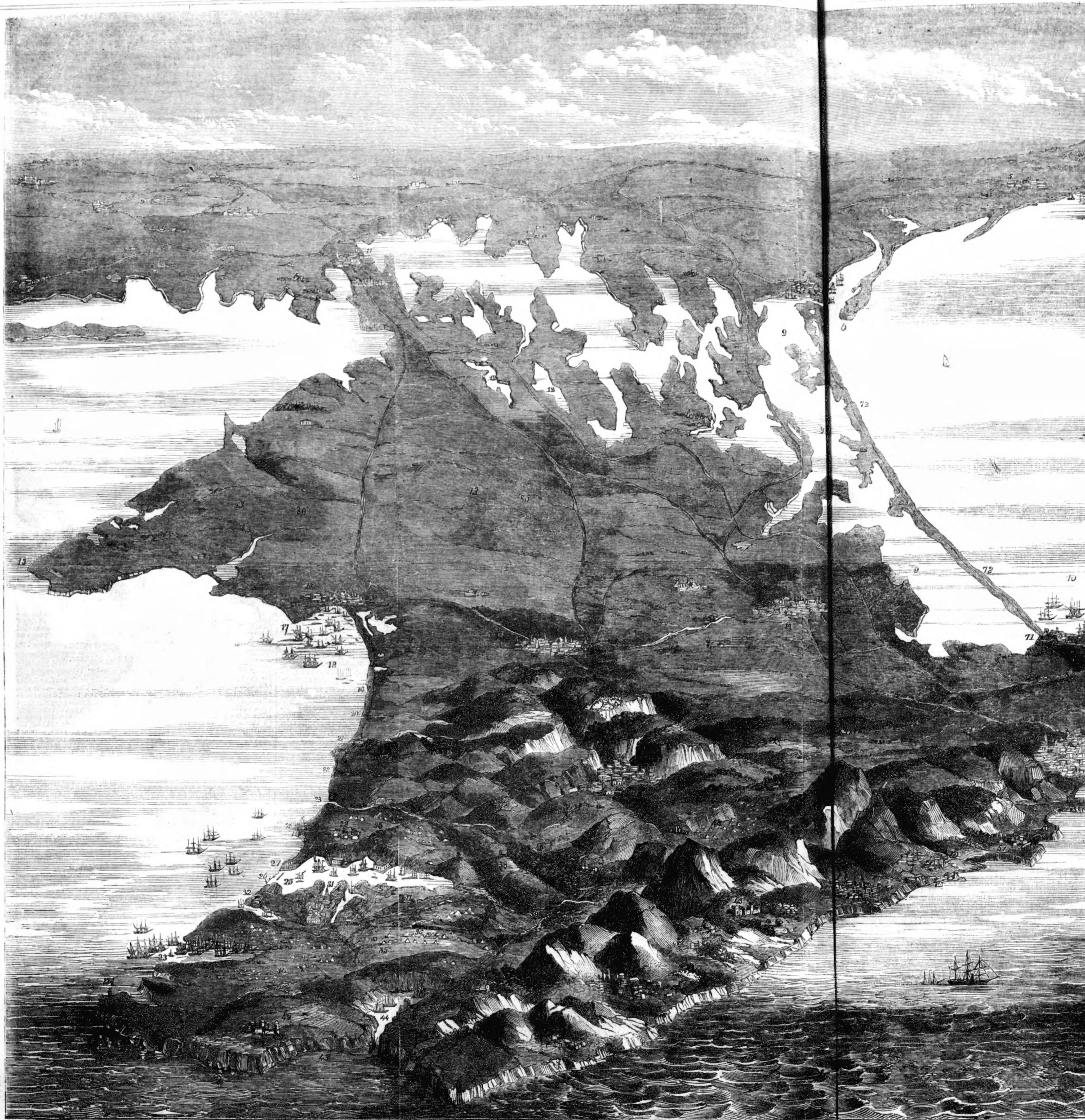
The Tartars are thus described by Mr. Seymour:—

"The Tartars in the days when they were a formidable people, are described as of middle stature, strong, with thick limbs, short neck, broad face—their eyes small, but very black and opening wide, their complexion tawny, hardened to all sort of labour and pains from their very infancy. They were dressed in sheep skins, and carried with them on their journey, a steed to strike fire, and a marmers' compass, and a sun-dial, to guide them through the desert plains where there is no beaten way. 'They ride very short,' says a French officer, 'like all the Eastern nations, and their horses, which they call *benamats*, were long, lean, and ugly, with the hair of their neck thick, and great manes which went to the ground; but they are swift and indestructible in travelling, being able to carry their riders whole days' journeys without drawing bit; and they will feed at all times, and when in winter the earth is covered with snow, which is the time the Tartars make their incursions, they live either upon what is under the snow, or upon the branches or sprouts of trees, pine tops, straw, or anything they can find.' The Tartars hardly ever used bread, but made pottage of millet, and ordinarily eat horse flesh, boiled when they were at leisure, but just heated under their saddles, and eaten raw when on a march, and the only sauce they had was the broth of the flesh from this primitive way of cooking it. They had the highest character for integrity; they did little injustice or violence, and lived in union and great tranquillity."

"The domestic habits of the Tartars are very simple, and resemble those of other Oriental nations, except that they have been to a certain degree modified by contact with the Russians. When a stranger, says Clarke, arrives at a Tartar house, they conduct him to the apartment destined for the guest, and present him with a basin of water, and a clean napkin, to wash his hands. They then place before him whatever their dwelling affords of bread, cream, honey in the comb, poached eggs, roasted fowls, and fruit. After the meal is over, the basin and water are brought in as before, because all the Tartars, like the Turks and other Oriental nations, eat with their fingers, and use no forks. Then, if at the house of a rich Tartar, a long pipe is presented, of cherry-wood, which grows in the mountains, and with amber or ivory. After this, carpets and cushions are laid for the guests, that they may repose. All the houses of the Tartars, even the cottages of the poor, are extremely clean, being often whitewashed. The floor is generally of earth, but smooth, firm, dry, and covered with mats and carpets. The meanest Tartar possesses an humble dwelling, one for himself and his wife, and the other for his women. They do not allow their most intimate friends to enter the place allotted for the female part of the family. With so much cleanliness, it is surprising to find the itch prevalent. It is also difficult to escape venomous insects and vermin. The tarantula, the scorpion, cockroach, lice, bugs, fleas, flies, and ants, are more or less to be met with everywhere, but, with proper precautions, the traveller need not be much incommoded by them."

"A favourite beverage of sour milk, mixed with water, the *yacourt* of the Turks, is found in request with the Tartars, among the Laplanders. They all shave their heads, both young and old, and wear in their houses a sort of skull-cap, over which, in winter, is placed a kind of helmet of wool, and in summer a turban. Their legs in winter are swathed in cloth bandages, like those worn throughout Russia, and their feet are covered by a kind of sandal. In summer both legs and feet are naked. Their shirts, like those of Turkey, are wide and loose at the sleeves, hanging down below the ends of their fingers. If they have occasion to use their hands, either to eat or work, they cast back the sleeve of the shirt upon the shoulder and leave the arm bare. The jacket or waistcoat is generally of silk or cotton, and the trousers being made very large, full, and loose, though bound tight below the knee, fall over in thick folds on the calf of the leg."

"They have no chairs in their houses, and a little short stool, about three inches high, is used for supporting a tray during their meals. This stool is often ornamented, either by carved work or inlaid mother-of-pearl. During the summer months the chief delight of the men consists in the open air, sleeping at night either beneath the shed before the door, or under the shade of the fine spreading trees which they cultivate near their houses. In the principal part of a Tartar dwelling there is a particular part which bears the name of *Sopha*. This is a platform raised twelve inches from the floor, occupying the entire side of the apartment, not for the purpose of a seat, but as a place for their household chests, the 'dii domestici,' and heaps of carpets, mats, cushions, and clothes. The same custom may be observed in the tents of the Kalmucks."



1. A Province of Russia, called Ekaterinoslov, or Taurida.
2. Taganrog, a Town on the Sea of Azof.
3. Marioupol.
4. Berdiansk.
5. Nogaïsk.
6. Peninsula of Beriatchi.

7. Port of Genitchi.
8. Strait of Genitchi.
9. The Putrid Sea.
11. Perekop.
12. Salt Lakes.
13. Cape Tarkini.
14. Kara-su Bazar.

15. Simpheropol.
16. Eupatoria.
17. Cape Baba.
18. Kalamita Bay.
19. Old Fort, where the landing of the Allies took place.
20. River Zamruk.

21. River Alma.
22. River Katcha.
23. River Belbek.
24. Bakschiserai.
25. Harbour of Sebastopol.
26. Sunk Ships and Boom.
27. Fort Constantine.

28. Telegraph Battery.
29. Star Fort, or Citadel.
30. Russian Encampment.
31. Town of Sebastopol.
32. Quarantine Fort and Harbour.
33. Kamiesch Bay.
- 33½. Cape Chersonesus.

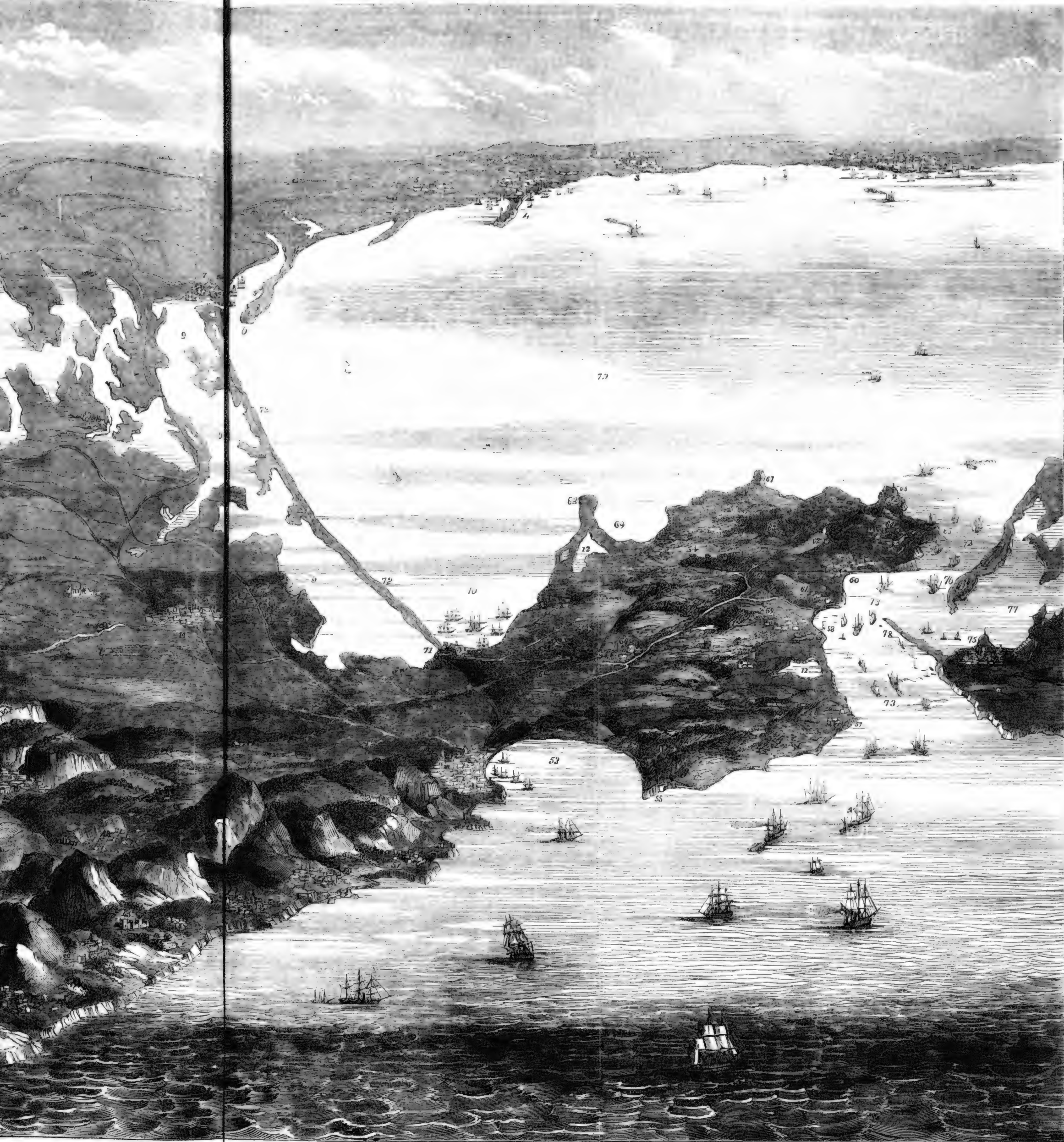
34. French Encampment.
35. English Encampment.
36. Railroad.
37. Malakhoff Tower.
38. Hill of Inkermann and Lighthouses.
39. River Tchernaya.
40. Wood of Inkermann.

41. Mackenzie's Farm.
42. Monastery of St. George.
43. Balachava Bay.
44. Harbour of Balachava.
45. Aloupka, the Palace of Prince Woronzow.
46. Yalta.

47. Mount St. Peter.
48. The Valley of Baidar—Russian Encampment.
49. Tchatir Dagh.
50. Alouchta.
51. Sudak.

52. Kaffa or Theodosia in the Crimea.
53. Bay of Kaffa.
54. The Peninsula of Kaffa.
55. Cape Tchernaya.
56. Argin.
57. Cape Tarkini.

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE CRIMEA.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE CRIMEA.

French Encampment.
English Encampment.
Railroad.
Malakhoff Tower.
Hill of Inkermann and Lighthouses.
River Tchernaya.
Wood of Inkermann.

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49. Tchaufir Dagh.
50. Alouchta.
51. Sudak.

52. Kaffa or Theodosia, the largest city in the Crimea.
53. Bay of Kaffa.
54. The Peninsula of Kertch.
55. Cape Tchaudan.
56. Argin.
57. Cape Takh.

58. Kamish Bournou, where the Kertch Expedition landed.
59. The Town of Ambalaki.
60. Kertch.
61. Fort of St. Paul.
62. A large Mound, said to be the Tomb of Mithridates.

63. Ancient Mounds or Tumuli. These are numerous throughout the Crimea, and particularly at this part of Kertch.
64. The Fortress of Yenikale.
65. Cape Fuar.
66. Cape Julie.

67. Cape Zuke.
68. Cape Kazandib.
69. Kazandib Bay.
70. Gulf of Arabat.
71. Fort of Arabat.
72. Tongue of Arabat.
73. Strait of Kertch.

74. Isle of Taman in Asia.
75. Town and Fort of Taman.
76. Bank of Teucheka.
77. Gulf of Taman.
78. Bank of Touzla.
79. Sea of Azov.
80. Straits of Crimea.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 13.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE TURKISH LOAN.

EARL GRANVILLE, in answer to Lord Montagu, said that the loan of £5,000,000 for the benefit of Turkey is to be a joint guarantee on the part of England and France, and that the former will be responsible to the creditor for the whole of that sum.

The Encumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill went through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NON-PAYMENT OF THE CRIMEAN INVADES.

MR. F. PERL explained, in reply to a question from Col. Knox, that some of the invalided soldiers in Fort Pitt had not yet received certain arrears, owing to the non-arrival of the pay list. They were, however, regularly receiving the current full pay as it fell due.

SUNDAY DEMONSTRATIONS AND THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICE.

SIR G. GREY stated, in answer to Mr. T. Duncombe, that the commission of inquiry into the conduct of the police during the late disturbances in Hyde Park would consist of the Records of London, Liverpool, and Manchester. The inquiry would commence forthwith, and every facility be afforded for aggrieved persons to prefer their complaints. He likewise remarked that no apprehension existed of any renewal of disturbances in the Park or Belgrave on Sunday, but that proper precautions had been adopted to meet every contingency.

BILLETING AND RECRUITING THE MILITIA.

MR. COWAN inquired whether there was any intention on the part of Government of putting an end to the system of billeting the militia upon private families in Scotland. He intimated his intention of moving an address to the Crown.

LORD PALMERSTON stated that it was not the intention of the Government to resort to the ballot for recruiting the militia, but to continue voluntary enlistment, at all events until actual necessity should arise.

SUPPLEMENTARY AMENDMENTS.

MR. DISRAELI inquired whether, when the last loan was contracted, there was any engagement that no further sum should be raised this year in the same mode.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER replied in the affirmative, and said he did not wish to convey to the House that her Majesty's Government had any intention to raise an additional loan, at all events till December next.

Lady Raglan and Lord Raglan's Annuities Bill was read a third time, and passed.

TENANTS' IMPROVEMENTS COMPENSATION (IRELAND) BILL.

Several hours were occupied in debating clauses 15 and 16, the former being negative (against the Government) by a majority of 65 to 51. The 16th and following clauses were then agreed to with some amendments.

MR. I. BUTT observed that the remaining clause related to a different question—namely, the power of creating life tenancies in Ireland, and should be made the subject of a separate bill.

LORD PALMERSTON declared his intention of proceeding with the measure as it stood.

STAGE CARRIAGE DUTIES BILL.

MR. SOTHERTON complained that a clause had been smuggled into this measure by which building societies would be rendered subject to a new and heavy stamp duty.

After some discussion, the bill was read a second time.

The House then adjourned at 25 minutes to 2 o'clock.

MONDAY, JULY 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

INDIAN GRIEVANCES.

LORD ALBEMARLE presented a petition from the presidency of Madras, praying for the redress of various grievances, and supported the prayer of the petitioners in a speech of considerable length.

LORD GRANVILLE thought that great praise was due to the Noble Lord for his calm and temperate speech. The Indian Government had done much already, and would no doubt do more, to introduce and carry out reforms.

DEFICIENCY BILLS.

LORD MONTAGUE moved for copies of all the correspondence which had passed between the Bank of England and the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the matter of deficiency bills.

LORD GRANVILLE at first objected to produce the correspondence, but, when the motion was supported by Lord Derby, ultimately agreed to it.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP BILL.

LORD SHAFTESBURY stated that he had introduced alterations into the bill, which had met with the approval of several of the Episcopal Bench.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TRANSMISSION OF NEWSPAPERS TO THE BRITISH COLONIES.

MR. WILSON said, in reply to questions put by Sir S. Northcote, that the charge for the transmission of a newspaper to the colonies was higher than before the alteration of the law, inasmuch as a newspaper went free of postage before that time, but now it was charged 1d. independently of the stamp,—that the charge for the transmission of newspapers to the British West Indies was higher than the charge for their transmission to Peru, New Granada, and other foreign countries, inasmuch as we had treaties with those countries which compelled us to send newspapers altogether free; therefore, the impressed stamp was not reckoned as a postage stamp, but, in all cases where we had no treaties to bind us, the charge was 1d. independent of the impressed stamp. With regard to the newspapers that went by the mails, the authorities at the Post Office would forward every newspaper with an impressed stamp, although it might not have an adhesive stamp; but no newspapers would be forwarded to the West Indies, or to foreign countries, without an impressed stamp.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S EXPLANATION.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL (who spoke from the back of the Ministerial bench) adverted to the resolution of which Sir E. B. Lytton had given notice, and announced the fact of his own resignation, which he added her Majesty had been graciously pleased to accept, and the seals of the colonial department consequently remained in his hands only until his successor could be appointed. The circumstances which led to that result were derived from the Vienna Conference, and had been made the subject of so many malicious misrepresentations as to demand a categorical examination and reply. Lord John then recapitulated the proceedings at the last meetings of the Plenipotentiaries at Vienna, and of the Cabinet Councils held in London subsequently. His own prepossession, he declared, had from the beginning been adverse to the plan of adjustment on the principle of counterpoise; but his bias on that subject had, he confessed, been reversed by the discovery, made on the last day of his residence in Vienna, that the Austrian Government were willing, upon that basis, to propose an ultimatum to Russia, under a promise of co-operating actively in the contest waged by the Western Powers against the aggression of Russia, in case of its rejection by the Czar. Subsequently, he stated, it appeared that Austria had withdrawn from that position, declaring that even the repudiation of her proposal would not be considered a casus belli. On that intimation, which transpired only on the 18th of May, the British Government recognised the utility of further negotiations, and communicated that conclusion to Lord Westmoreland. In this decision he himself concurred; and it was under these circumstances that he spoke unreservedly in support of the vigorous prosecution of the war, while the motion brought forward by Mr. Disraeli was under discussion; and, although that speech had been the topic for much animadversion, he contended that his expressions on that occasion were both justifiable and consistent. Assigning the necessity of his own resignation to a wrong impression both in Parliament and among the public, he declared that with his present position he was quite contented; towards his late fellow-ministers he entertained feelings of the most perfect cordiality; and for the few false friends who had fallen away the moment that his fortunes appeared darkened, he could acknowledge no other sentiment than contempt. Whatever the result of the motion to be proposed by the Member for Hertfordshire, he submitted that his own political career had been productive of some utility to the cause of liberty, was not altogether inglorious, and was certainly inspired throughout by a sincere and conscientious sense of public duty.

SIR E. B. LYTTON characterised the speech of Lord John as evasive and disingenuous, and argued that it sufficed to destroy all reliance either in the speaker himself or the colleagues who countenanced and recognised him. The stigma of insincerity had reached every member of the Administration, and resulted in a degree of feebleness in the executive which was fraught with discredit and peril to the country. Neither the resignation of the Colonial Secretary, nor the papers lately published respecting the Conference, had diminished his conviction that Lord Palmerston and his Government had deserved to lose the confidence of the country. Adverting to the European aspect of the question, he contended that the Austrian alliance was little worth the sacrifices that had been vainly made to secure it. Returning to the point immediately before the House, he remarked that the retirement of Lord John Russell, though it had not cancelled his errors or retrieved the loss of credit, and the disengagement to their integrity on the part of the whole Administration, had so far accomplished the object of the resolution which he himself proposed as to justify its withdrawal, and this step he expressed his intention of adopting.

MR. BOUVERIE, on the part of himself and some other colleagues in the Ministry, denied the charge that they had insisted on the resignation of Lord J. Russell, for whose conduct and career they felt nothing but admiration.

LORD PALMERSTON declared that he had never heard a speech more full of inconsistencies than that of Sir E. B. Lytton, who had argued, as if Lord J. Russell had from the day he arrived from Vienna continued to be of opinion that the arrangement proposed by Austria was proper to be adopted. He gave Sir E. B. Lytton his choice between deliberate insincerity and the grossest ignorance,

when he said that he allowed credit to Lord Clarendon for his communications, and that he was only the organ of his individual opinions. Did he believe this? If so, he must be as ignorant as a child. He denied that there was any division of opinion in the Cabinet on the subject of the war; all were animated by the same determination to carry it on with all the vigour which the resources of the country would supply.

MR. DISRAELI said that such a defence of an Administration as that just offered by Lord Palmerston, he did not suppose any person had ever listened to. After commenting upon the inconsistencies of Lord J. Russell and the ambiguities in the language of the Government, he reverted to the tone adopted by Lord Palmerston, and inquired whether or not it was a fact that there had been a general understanding between the Governments of England and France that the terms in question would be accepted, and that this was communicated to Lord J. Russell. (Lord Palmerston said, "No.") If the Parliament lasted six weeks, he believed this statement would be received by a majority of the House as a lie.

MR. ROEBUCK said, Lord J. Russell had led the House to adopt an opinion which gave Lord Palmerston a large majority, and had induced him (Mr. Roebuck) to vote in a particular way. He had practised a deceit upon him, and Lord Palmerston had concurred in it. He wanted to know the traitors now in the Cabinet. Lord John had not, in his opinion, done his duty to the House, to the country, and to his own honour.

SIR G. GREY said, the papers before the House showed what had been the opinion of the Cabinet on the subject of the proposition of Austria. The Government had come to the unanimous conclusion that their duty to the country required that the proposition should be rejected, and the despatch of Lord Clarendon was communicated to every member of the Cabinet before it was sent.

MR. GLADSTONE observed, it was plain that, as the House had debated the subject of the negotiations with most imperfect information, the result being an early opportunity given for returning to it. He pointed out various other points in which explanation was needed, expressing a doubt whether the Government had observed the relations they owed to the House.

The motion of Sir E. Lytton was then withdrawn.

The Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed.

STAGE CARRIAGE DUTIES BILL.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, being much pressed, consented to withdraw the sixth clause, relating to benefit building societies, upon the understanding that next session the subject should be investigated by a select committee.

The Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Bill was read a second time.

The Mortmain and the Dissenters' Marriages Bill were severally read a third time, and passed, with amendments.

The House adjourned at one o'clock.

TUESDAY, JULY 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE EARL OF ALBEMARLE gave notice that on an early day he should call attention to the principles based upon an Order in Council issued in 1845, by which the commercial intercourse between England and Russia, as carried on through neutral countries, was at present regulated. The existing observances, in this respect, he contended, resulted in the invigoration of our enemy.

Various bills were advanced through a stage of progress. Among others the Raglan Annuities Bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL was committed "pro forma," with a view to its being reprinted with certain amendments, and then to allow it to stand over till next session.

The Metropolitan Buildings Bill went through committee.

AUSTRIA AND THE PRINCIPALITIES.

LORD PALMERSTON said, in answer to Mr. Lytton, that Austria occupied the Danubian Principalities in virtue of a treaty with Turkey, and he had not heard of any protest against the occupation.

THE TURKISH LOAN.

LORD PALMERSTON brought up the papers connected with the Turkish loan, and moved that the subject be taken into consideration on Thursday next.

VOTE OF CENSURE ON THE ABERDEEN ADMINISTRATION.

MR. ROEBUCK moved the following resolution:—"That this House, deeply lamenting the sufferings of our army during the winter campaign in the Crimea, and considering with the resolution of their committee, that the conduct of the Administration was the first and chief cause of the calamities which befell that army, do hereby visit with severe reprobation every member of that Cabinet whose counsels led to such disastrous results." The conclusion to which his resolution pointed had, he said, been based upon the evidence collected by the Sebastopol Inquiry Committee; and, in answer to the plea that the Ministers chiefly implicated in the failure and misconduct of the past campaign had already retired from the Government, he contended that many of the subordinate members of the Administration still remained who had given their voices to the policy of the Cabinet, having nothing else to give, and whose insignificance ought not to shield them from deserved censure. He divided the Aberdeen Cabinet into three divisions—First, those who were excluded by the resolution of the House, namely, Lord Aberdeen and the Duke of Newcastle; secondly, the important members of the Cabinet, Lords Palmerston and J. Russell, Sir J. Graham, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. S. Herbert; and thirdly, the mere herd that followed where others led, and were like sheep walking in the track of one who went before them. Analysing the testimony produced before the Committee, he remarked that Lord Raglan, on whose eminent services he passed a high eulogium, had disclaimed all concurrence in the project for the invasion of the Crimea, for which the whole responsibility devolved on the Home Government, who had, he believed, ordered the expedition without any reliable information as to the strength of the enemy, or due preparation for the supply and reinforcement of our own army. On this point Mr. Roebuck cited many passages from the report of the Commissioners, and proceeded to remark that during the months while preparations were neglected, and disasters were impending, the Ministers had departed upon tours of relaxation, and never assembled in Cabinet Council from August to October. In making provision for the army, all the discoveries of modern science for military, social, or medical improvement had been ignored. The lieges lay with the Ministry then in power, and constituted a dereliction of duty which the British public viewed with indignant condemnation. All the Members of the Administration were equally guilty, and it would be a perversion of justice if any one of them escaped punishment. Some had no doubt been already punished; but those, he believed, were the very Ministers who had most conscientiously endeavoured to perform their duty.

MR. HADFIELD seconded the motion. General PERL, in moving an amendment the "previous question," observed that he was not prepared to pronounce the Sebastopol expedition wrong and undisable. There might be truth in the assertion that the enterprise was undertaken without sufficient information; but he remarked that no important military operation would have been commenced if the commanders had not disregarded some of the preliminary precautions which might abstractedly be considered necessary for its success.

LORD R. CECIL seconded the amendment, contending that the resolution which was now proposed referred to a long past course of action, and a Ministry which had ceased to exist.

Colonel ADAIR regretted that the forms of the House prevented him from bringing forward an amendment of which he had given notice, and which he declared had been prepared in perfect independence of all Ministerial influences. He was disposed to attribute the check sustained by our army rather to the extraordinary defence of Sebastopol, and the fact that our military organisation was framed at an earlier period and under less pressing circumstances, than to any negligence or incompetence on the part of the Government. Denying the force of the objections urged by Mr. Roebuck, and expressing a warm approval of the Crimean expedition, he observed that the policy which dictated that enterprise was involved neither in the resolution nor the amendment placed before the House, and felt consequently unable to vote for either alternative.

MR. CONOLLY argued that the question under discussion did not relate to the policy of the Government, but to the fact whether they had provided adequate means for carrying it out. Believing that this had not been done, he was bound to give his vote against them.

MR. LOWE said he had originally opposed the appointment of the Committee, under the conviction that the inquiry must prove unsatisfactory and incomplete. The report itself had borne out that persuasion, and he denied the possibility of arriving at any fair judgment upon evidence so partial, and reminded the House that by adopting the resolution they would attach a censure to the proceedings, not only of the British Government, but also to that of France.

The Marquis of GRANBY believed that the House and the country had been accomplished in every step of the war policy, and deserved censure not less than either the past or the present Ministries. He should vote for the amendment, not wishing to weaken the hands of the Executive Government.

MR. J. G. PHILLIMORE said it was absurd and unconstitutional to make the whole body of the present Cabinet responsible for all the past acts of every individual Minister.

MR. GORDON could not accept a vote of censure on evidence so imperfect as that furnished by the Sebastopol Committee.

SIR J. WALSH condemned the Government for having sacrificed their own convictions to pressure from without, and in that case the House and the public were equally to blame for the expedition to the Crimea. As they were now embarked in the war, he should support the amendment.

At this stage of the debate no Member seemed anxious to address the House, and after each speaker had sat down, there was a general pause.

MR. MAGUIRE hoped that Mr. Roebuck would press his resolution to a division, for the House was bound to express an opinion on the conduct, not only of the late but also of the present Government.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM expressed his regret that no minister had risen to state the intentions of the Government. He had resisted the appointment of the

committee, believing the investigation would not be pushed to an extent consistent with justice, or that, if pushed to such an extent, political danger might arise from the inquiry. That danger had been avoided, but justice had not been satisfied. He should feel it his duty to resist the previous question, in the hope that the House, having all the materials before it for pronouncing judgment, would pronounce a decision, ay or no, whether the members of Lord Aberdeen's Government deserved the reprobation of the House.

LORD SEYMOUR, as a member of Mr. Roebuck's committee, declared that their conclusions, if imperfect, were at all events honestly derived. The great object of the inquiry was, he believed, rather to suggest warning for the future than punishment for the past, and on this ground he objected to the motion before the House.

SIR JOHN PAKINGTON said Mr. Roebuck had appealed to the members of the Committee to support him, and he was prepared, with great reluctance and pain, to give him that support. He considered that the insufficiency of the reasons brought against the motion justified every member in supporting it, and he treated the arguments of Mr. Lowe and Sir J. Graham as mere bugbears, called up to persuade the House to overlook the real point at issue. He considered the late Government deeply culpable, and saw nothing in the present Government, composed as it was in a great measure of the same individuals, which was calculated to restore the forfeited confidence of the country.

SIR C. WOOD denied that the Ministry had on the previous evening shrunk from contesting a vote of censure, or were they eluding the present motion by an indirect issue. They felt that the evidence collected by the Sebastopol Inquiry Committee was incomplete, and had not, therefore, proposed an absolute negative to Mr. Roebuck's proposition, but did not the less challenge the verdict of the Legislature on their own conduct. He accepted his share of responsibility for the Crimean expedition, of which he fully approved, remarking that the censures pronounced against it were prompted solely by the accident that it had not, as yet, been successful.

On the motion of Mr. Gaskell, the debate was then adjourned until Thursday, and the House rose at half-past one o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

EPISCOPAL AND CAPTULAR ESTATES BILL.

THE MARQUIS OF BLANDFORD withdrew the bill, after a few observations, seeing no chance of successfully proceeding with it during the present session.

SIR G. GREY assured the Noble Marquis that this important subject would receive the best consideration of the Government during the recess.

After some observations from Mr. Liddell, Lord J. Manners, Sir G. Grey, Mr. Spooner, and Mr. A. Pellatt, the bill was withdrawn.

DWELLINGS FOR LABOURING CLASSES (IRELAND) BILL.

On the motion that the House should resolve itself into a committee on this bill.

MR. M'MAHON moved as an amendment, that the House should go into committee on the bill that day three months, and Mr. DE VEE seconded the amendment.

SIR W. SOMERVILLE supported the motion for going into committee on the bill, considering that the present condition of the Irish labourers' dwellings was a disgrace to that country.

MR. J. FITZGERALD said there were objections to the bill, the chief of which was, that it would place the landlord in a position in which his interests and his duty conflicted. He recommended that some alterations should be made, and that the bill should meantime be withdrawn.

MR. NAPIER and Sir T. BUCKE supported the bill, and Mr. MAGUIRE contended that a bill of this kind should be introduced by the Government, and not by a private member.

MR. HORSMAN regretted that the House was to divide without some acquiescence on the part of Sir W. Somerville, in the objections urged by Mr. Fitzgerald. These objections were so obvious and palpable, that they were worthy of every consideration.

SIR W. SOMERVILLE said it would be perfectly useless for him to assent to any proposals which would impede the progress of the bill. He should take the opinion of the House upon a division.

Sergeant SHREE said it was absolutely impossible that the bill could pass this session unless with the amendments.

After some further discussion, the House divided, when the numbers were—For the bill, 124; against, 65; majority, 59.

The House accordingly went into committee upon the bill, and adjourned at a few minutes before 6 o'clock.

THURSDAY, JULY 19.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL moved the second reading of this bill, which was supported by Lords Pannure and Brougham, but opposed by the Duke of Buccleuch and the Earl of Eglinton. The Duke of Argyll then expressed his willingness to withdraw the measure without a vote. This, however, was opposed, and on a division, there were 86 for the amendment, and 1 against it. The bill was therefore rejected.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DEBATE ON MR. ROEBUCK'S MOTION.

MR. GASKELL resumed the debate, and said he would support the motion. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL declared that the advocates of the resolution rendered Lord Palmerston chiefly, if not solely, responsible for the misconduct of the war last year. The present Government had evinced all the vigour and earnestness which could have been fairly anticipated of them.

MR. WHITESIDE said the Sebastopol Committee involved a heavy condemnation upon the late Ministry, and upon every individual member of it.

LORD J. RUSSELL, referring to Mr. Roebuck's motion, said, if carried it would disqualify for office almost every man who had aided in carrying out liberal measures. Untried men alone would then be left eligible.

MR. BRIGHT said, that responsibility for the misconduct of the war, rested principally on the Prime Minister, since the name of Palmerston had been identified with every stage of our foreign policy, and his influence could be traced throughout all the proceedings which had, within the two last years, led to such deplorable calamities. He contended, that the invasion of the Crimea was undertaken chiefly in obedience to the urgency of a prodigal press.

SIR D. L. EVANS regretted that there was so much in the charges against the Government in which he was compelled to concur; he could not, however, agree to a motion so sweeping as the present, which would preclude from future office most of the eminent men on one side of the House.

MR. MUNTZ said, he charged the entire Administration of Lord Aberdeen with want of foresight, care, caution and candour.

MR. S. HERBERT urged, that after the accusations made, the House should specifically decide which were true and which false.

SIR G. GREY treated the motion as involving a specific charge against Lord Palmerston, and said, the endeavour to blame him was a recent thought. He was perfectly prepared to challenge a direct negative to the resolution.

LORD PALMERSTON acknowledged his responsibility for all the acts of the Aberdeen cabinet. When the events were much more recent, he said, Lord Derby had not considered himself and some other members of the late Government unfit for office, having invited their accession to the Ministry he was attempting to form.

MR. DISRAELI remarked that the Government had not ventured to propose a negative to the vote of censure, but asked the House to consent not to express any opinion at all. This step might be convenient to the Ministry, but left a stigma on the retired members of the Aberdeen cabinet, and formed an unbecoming conclusion to the labours of the Sebastopol Inquiry Committee.

MR. ROEBUCK contended that the Noble Lord in adopting the previous question virtually confessed their guilt.

The House then divided, when the previous question was carried by a majority of 289 to 182. The vote of censure is thus evaded.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to three o'clock.

RUSSIAN SORTIE REPULSED.

The following is from Gen. Pelissier, and bears date July 16, 11 p.m.

"The enemy, who had for some days in vain endeavoured to stop our left approaches in front of the Malakhoff Tower, attempted last night to drive us back. They were repulsed by the first division of the second corps. Three times the Russians threw themselves upon our trenches with their usual shouts, and each time they were compelled to retreat before the fire and calm attitude of our soldiers, leaving behind many of their number upon the ground.

Lord Pannure has received the following, dated July 18.

"Sortie on left attack repulsed, with only three casualties on our side."

The "Patrie" of the 19th says:—"We are assured that, according to news received this morning, the Russians attempted another sortie last night, about 10 o'clock, against the batteries of Careening Bay, and that they were vigorously repulsed."

CRITICAL SITUATION OF KARS.—Accounts from Erzeroum, dated June 26, inform us that Kars is not invested; but the Russian army, consisting of about 36,000 men, commanded by General Mouraviev, is encamped about two leagues from the town. Tchiprakli, eight leagues from Kars, is occupied by the Russians, who have evacuated Ardahan.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1855.

MR. ROEBUCK'S MOTION.

The period at which we are compelled to go to press, precludes our discussing the whole of the debate on this question, but an important part of it is before us; and, at least, on the general matter, something may be said. The "situation" is a very delicate one, as it is easy to show, and we advise the public to have most modest expectations if they wish to avoid complete disappointment.

The Government having got rid of Lord JOHN, and so escaped the LATTON motion, was no doubt anxious, by way of ending the session in triumph, to shirk a long debate on the present motion. And the wish to avoid a sharp condemnation of the kind is very widely spread: it would compromise some two-thirds of the public men of the kingdom—a result they cannot be expected to like. It would fall both on "ins" and "outs," and, at the same time, there is no great chance at present of its turning up a good party question. If Lord JOHN could shirk his share of it, and come in full of "vigorous war" pretensions, why of course he would welcome it. But it incupates Lord JOHN, and the present PREMIER, and the Peites into the bargain; while the Derby party (as Mr. Lowe reminds us) are in the position of having offered power to three of the guilty persons, since their offences were committed! The House, then, speaking generally, fears and dreads the question; because the decision proposed would be tantamount to a stigma on our whole system of Government. It would place the country in opposition to its public men. It would be a vote of censure on the whole scheme of British policy! This is what people feel in the House and out of it; this is what the "Times" feels, and hence it snubs the proposal. We have suffered so terribly from the want of Government, that there is a pretty strong wish to retain a respectable kind of Government at any price. There is an old saying about "the foul bird that dirties its own nest," and we are all somewhat afraid of pronouncing our British system a failure in the face of warring Europe. Hence—in spite of GRAHAM'S wish to go on, and PARKINGTON'S advocacy of the same, (both lying under suspicion as "moves,") there is little probability of any serious result from this motion. The affair is all very melancholy, and we are all very helpless. "and there's an end on't!"

But supposing that Parliament cannot make up its mind to censure the infamous war failures—what then? The facts will be no way altered thereby. It will still remain part of our English history, that we attacked a place without knowing enough about it; that we sent an insufficient force, which we destroyed by overwork in consequence; that a fifth of our whole forces were improperly armed; that we could not make six miles of road in six months; that we used-up statesman after statesman in the course of these proceedings; and that we have still failed in our main object after hideous sufferings and vast cost. All this will remain true, whether the House censure it, or do not censure it. Nor—if people succeed in showing that nobody can prove whether one man or the other was most to blame—will it therefore follow that nobody was to blame at all. In fact, if our Ministers escape censure one way, they do not escape it in another. These revelations have done permanent harm to our institutions:—the feelings they excite slowly spread themselves, and sink into the minds of men, and influence their opinions, and in one way or another their consequences will come round again in the form of punishment to the guilty parties. That England should think less of its statesmen than it used to do—that it should be indisposed to make great sacrifices at new periods of trial—these results flow from the Crimean blunders, whether ROEBUCK'S motion be passed or not. Perhaps it consoles some of the authors of them, that they will be dead and forgotten before the full harvest of their crimes is gathered by the land. Whether or no,—it *will* be gathered, we may be sure, late or soon.

We observe some very curious pretexts made by gentlemen who opposed the motion. Poor General PELL, who moved "the previous question" to upset it, had only to urge that sieges were difficult, and nothing ever turned out just as people expected—indicating what a fine General he would have made in a crisis. Lord ROBERT CEIL (whose family has not produced an able man since the time of JAMES THE FIRST, and who will sustain that reputation) deprecated a "historical and retrospective" censure. But surely the events of last year are not quite gone by so as to be matters of history only, already? If so, we may rank Alma at once with Marathon; and cease to take practical concern in all that happened last week. His theory would make strange work with the State Trials; and had it been discovered in earlier times, would have saved many a head. But we apologise to our readers for reasoning with Lord ROBERT CEIL. Then, again, we are told that we censure the French Emperor; but the French Emperor, though he advised the Crimean Expedition, is not responsible for all the bungling we made in conducting it. That stands by itself,—and we fear will long stand a peculiar reproach of our own.

We have carefully looked at this question from the public rather than the parliamentary point of view. We do not say that there might not be delicate and difficult consequences from passing the ROEBUCK motion as it stands. The great and the melancholy feature of the business is, that the public shrink from going the whole way in a censure which everybody feels to be merited, for fear that justice would be dangerous in the present state of public matters.

INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED MISCONDUCT OF THE POLICE. On Tuesday morning the Hon. S. Wortley, Recorder of London, R. B. Arncliffe, Esq., Recorder of Manchester, and G. Henderson, Esq., Recorder of Liverpool, opened a Court of Inquiry at the Exchequer Court, Westminster, into an alleged disturbance in Hyde Park, and streets adjacent, on Sunday, 1st July, and particularly into the conduct of the Metropolitan police in connection therewith. But little interest appeared to be excited in the proceedings, there being not more than twenty persons in the Court at the commencement. Towards the close of the day, however, the number was slightly increased. The case of Mr. Mair, was the first investigated by the Commissioners.

OUR PRESENT REPRESENTATIVES.

"How long." (Moore asked Burdett, some five-and-twenty years ago), "How long can the monarchy endure with a purely popular House of Commons?"

We will not ask any idle questions about the monarchy, which, at least, seems in but little peril; but we may well ask, "How long can the Queen's Government be carried on with a purely *unpopular* House of Commons?" For, to the speculative observer of passing events, an altogether new phase of public feeling daily makes itself more evident, inasmuch that the nation, which has so often sided with the House of Commons against the Ministry, or with a Ministry against a section of the House of Commons, now visits its representatives and the Ministry with the like condemnation, and is well-nigh as weary of the one as of the other. And this feeling is to be regretted, not as it affects the present Ministry, or our existing representatives, who have for the most part laboured with much zeal and pertinacity to deserve it, but because many rash thinkers, who do not so much jump as fly to conclusions, are but too prone to mistake personal errors for defects of system, and to infer, from the very unsatisfactory conduct of the present House of Commons, that the whole scheme of representative government has failed.

Pugsby—who, if the cab which carried Pugsby and his fortunes were, by reason of a defective line-pin, to deposit Pugsby and his fortunes in the mud, would immediately denounce all wheeled vehicles, and declare that man was born either not to ride at all, or only to ride pick-a-back;—Pugsby—who, if on donning a new coat, he should discover one unseemly pucker, or envious wrinkle, running eitherwise from shoulder to hip, would inveigh against the pernicious and deceitful art of dress, and sigh for our forefathers' light coats of paint, or for the elegant needlework which the Sandwich Islander grounds on the human cuticle;—Pugsby has, of course, lost all faith in representative government. "We want no talkers!" he shouts to the unfortunate victim whose button he has succeeded in capturing; "we want no theorists. Give us a strong, mild, unhesitating, reflective, rigorous, vigorous, paternal government. We must be coerced, Sir! we must be guided, Sir! by some master mind. That is the road to national glory, *Sic illic ad astra!*" "And to the moon also!" exclaims his friend, as Pugsby, swelling with a sense of his peculiar fitness to live under a despotic government, swaggers off, hustling applewomen, jostling little boys, and scowling at his own shadow, whenever it presumes to come betwixt himself and the wall.

Winkinsop, on the other hand—the erudite and classical Winkinsop—not only doubts the stability of our existing institutions, but can see no safety for us in any other form of government. If you ask him "What of the night?" he can see no gray dawn on the political horizon, but only an ever-deepening blackness of fast-gathering storm-clouds. Absolute Despotism and Limited Monarchy, Venetian Councils of Ten and National Assemblies, Short Parliaments and Long Parliaments, to him are all the same. The vitality of the empire, he thinks, is gone; and if you hint at the possibility of rejuvenescence he takes snuff, (his invariable practice when he is about to make a classical quotation) and reminds you that Cæsar had to undergo dismemberment before his youth could be renewed.

Meanwhile the people, though they are by no means converted from their ill opinion of a despotic government, by the few glimpses, which are vouchsafed to them, of the great despotism with which they are contending; and though they know well, by the enormous sacrifices which they have made, and are ready to make, and by the matchless valour and heroic patience of their armies, that the vitality of the empire is intact—are no better satisfied with their representatives or with the government. They do not blame our institutions, for they know that through those same institutions they hold a speedy cure for the ills of the State. They do not doubt the power of England, for they feel themselves strong in their good cause, strong in their united purpose, and strong by all the wealth and all the appliances which science has conferred upon the country. But they blame, and will reckon sternly, with the men who have brought those institutions, for a time, into a most unfavourable comparison with the despotism which they abhor, who have defended the good cause so ill, who would, indeed, have deserted that cause but for the strongly-expressed resolution of the nation, and who have so shamefully mismanaged the resources which should have ensured a speedy triumph.

And whilst Honourable Members are sunk so low in the opinion of their constituents, that but few of them could face the hustings if an election were impending, there is but small comfort for them (of that sort, at least, which is derived from the approving contemplation of one's own actions) within the walls of their own House.

The confusion of Agramantes' camp was order compared to the confusion of their debates. They were too idle to watch the progress of a bill, which only touched the comfort of the people; and when it had again and again received their approval, and only waited for their final confirmation, they were glad, in obedience to popular indignation, to let that be withdrawn indecently, which a little consideration at an earlier season would have enabled them to dismiss with credit to themselves. If they thought to reap gratitude, they must be miserably disappointed—for as yet they have only gathered contempt. Nor are the pugnacious colloquies of Messrs. Dundas and Duncombe creditable to a legislative assembly. "The people will go armed, next Sunday!" says the mild Numa of Finsbury. "Nothing will disperse them so well as the clink of a six-pounder on the pavement," is the maiden speech of Mr. Dundas, who seems inclined to burn all the powder at home, which his namesake saved in the Black Sea.

But more disheartening than the weakness, the vacillation, or the indifference of ordinary members; more sickening than the yelping of those who would smother Mr. Layard's voice under vulgar clamour; and far more detrimental to the fame and fortunes of England, are the words and actions of Ministers. Their love of place, their eagerness to shift the responsibility of failure from themselves to their subordinates—even their notorious want of sympathy with the nation, might be forgiven if they would only "assume a virtue though they have it not," and cease to strengthen the hands of our enemies, by openly avowing their doubts as to the part which the nation has taken. English ministers have, before now, led on the people in more difficult and dangerous undertakings than that in which we are now engaged, and have been the first, as it were, to mount the breach, and point out the path of glory for the forlorn hope; but our present ministers resemble those unhappy foreign auxiliaries in the Peninsular war, who could never be induced to charge the French, until the tramp of the Highlanders in their rear taught them that they had no alternative but to obey.

If the war in which we are engaged be, as we believe it to be, a just and necessary war, it would be our duty to carry it on in the teeth of every difficulty, and in spite of all disaster.

And if, under disappointment or protracted suffering, the courage of the nation should sink; if the people, worn down by grievous taxation, should cry aloud for peace before peace could be attained with honour, it would be the duty of our Ministers to sustain the flagging spirits of the people, to keep before them the great objects for which the war was undertaken, and to point out that it would not have been so necessary, if it had not been so difficult and so dangerous. It would be too much to expect any such encouragement from our present Ministers,—from our Consuls, who always despair of the Republic.

By their weakness in the hour of partial success, we may guess how feeble they would be in an hour of defeat, and we may well wish that before such an hour could unhappily arrive, a General Election might place the reins of government in the hands of more able and resolute men.

"OLD CHARLEY."—Sir Charles Napier received a summons to attend at Court for the purpose of being installed. He, however, with a spirit worthy of the famous name he bears, declined the proffered boon under existing circumstances. The reason assigned is well known to his friends. "I have been," he says, "censured and degraded, and have been denied the opportunity of clearing my reputation. Yet am I now offered a G.C.B."

BUSHY PARK.—An attempt is being made to deprive the public of their pleasant footpaths through Bushy Park. From time immemorial these paths have been the property of the public, and, indeed, in the ranger's notices exhibited in various parts of the Park, they are designated "public footpaths."

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUES.

SUNDAY *excurses* may be considered at an end—for the present, at all events; and, the people having triumphed, will secure further success by disavowing any connection with the dirty mob of blackguard boys and pick-pockets, which, for the two last Sundays, has invaded Hyde Park. There is no fun, to me at least, in leaning over a dusty railing for hours, gazing at the languid ladies, reclining in their carriages, the worn, made-up faces of the inmates of broughams, the dreary old *roués* of bye-gone generations, scarcely able to see the horses' ears over their huge cravats, and the frightened little gents, who are having seven shillings' worth of danger on hired horses! Better, in this glorious sunny weather, to avail yourself of the excursion trains, now so cheap and convenient, from nearly all the great stations, and enjoy the fresh turf and the healthy sea breeze, during your few hours of relaxation! These excursions are in great favour with most of the middle-classes. I hear that for the two last Sundays, a train, containing not less than 2,000 persons, has been despatched from Waterloo Bridge to Southampton, returning late in the evening with its travellers, tired and bed-anxious, but mostly sober and well-behaved. Every one must be satisfied at Sir George Grey's selection of the Commissioners to inquire into the great Hyde Park War; and, until their report is received, the public, having procured the withdrawal of the obnoxious bill, will do well to await the issue quietly.

The friends of Lord Dalhousie, and they are numerous, will regret to hear that his Lordship is compelled to return to England as quickly as possible, on account of the bad state of his health. Lord Canning's departure, which was fixed for November, is consequently accelerated; and he will leave England, I understand, about the middle of next month. Lord Dalhousie is, it is said, suffering under some cuticular disease. The appointment of Governor-General of India is worth £25,000 a year, and after a service of five years, he can retire upon a pension of £10,000, for life.

Mr. W. H. Russell, the Crimean correspondent of the "Times," has obtained a short *congé* from his duties, and is now at Therapia with Mrs. Russell, who has recently joined him. It would be very unfortunate were he to be absent from headquarters when the final victorious assault is made upon the city; but if he does not return until then, he will probably have plenty of time to recruit himself. The description of the attack on the Mamelon and the Quarries was from the pen of the late Mr. Stowe, Mr. Russell being at the time absent with the Kerch Expedition.

Mr. Tennyson's new volume, "Maud, and other Poems," is announced for publication on the 28th of this month; the price, five shillings. Mr. Philip James Bailey, "Festus" Bailey, is also reported to be at work on a new poem, which is nearly completed; and I hear rumours of another volume from Longfellow. This has been a prolific season with the *genus irritabile*.

Mr. Hawthorne, the author of "The Scarlet Letter," has arrived in America. The Yankee papers are congratulating him on his return, and themselves on the prospect of a new book on England, as the result of his residence here.

The world is talking about Mrs. Norton's new pamphlet on the law of divorce, which, from the subject, and the position of the writer, possesses an interest, alike for legal, literary, and fashionable circles. It is generally felt that Mrs. Norton has lost sight of her thread, in the recitation of her own private wrongs. Her expressions are high flown, and almost theatrical; her use of tropes and metaphors constant. It is a painful subject, and one that had better have been avoided, more especially by, we firmly believe, an unfortunate lady, and one deserving of pity, whose domestic miseries have too often formed the theme of gossip in the public prints.

Mr. Macaulay has completed two more volumes of his "History of England," which are announced for immediate publication by Messrs. Longman.

Mr. Wigan is, I hear, in treaty with Mr. Wilkie Collins for the production of his melodrama, "The Lighthouse," recently played at Campden House. Had Robson a couple of inches added to his stature, he would play Aaron Gurnock capably; after him, I cannot fancy any actor so good in the character as Emery.

Appropos of Sunday excursions, beware of the Thames, ye pleasure seekers of London. Everyone has read Faraday's letter to the "Times." I read it, and strong in my own conceit, embarked in a steamer at London Bridge, determined to go to Vauxhall. By dint of burying my face in my handkerchief, I contrived to reach Blackfriars without inconveniencing myself or fellow-passengers, but there I was compelled to land. A correspondent of the "Times" has cautioned every one having a due respect for their health, to abstain from pleasure excursions between London Bridge and Richmond, so that those who

"O'er Thamis row the ribboned fair,"

must make up their minds to encounter the stream for one portion of their trip, a thing generally shunned by the Cockney aquatic.

The names of writers in "Household Words" are kept so quiet, that but few of them are known to the exoteric world. It was not until the publication of "Once upon a Time," that it was discovered Mr. Charles Knight was a frequent contributor; and, now, readers of the "Old Court Suburbs" will find that many papers entitled "Kensington Worthies," "Strolls in Kensington," &c. &c., were from the pen of Mr. Leigh Hunt, who himself resides in Phillimore Place, the centre of the locality so faithfully and pleasantly described by him.

Mr. Wallack has written to contradict the report that the English theatrical company, in Paris, had been relieved by Madame Ristori. This lady has added to her success by appearing in a new part, Marie Stuart. Madame Rachel will appear under Mr. Mitchell's auspices, at the St. James's, on the 30th inst. Meanwhile the Parisian audiences are being entertained by the performances of two very old ladies, Mlles. Georges and Déjazet.

A complimentary dinner has been given to Mr. F. T. Smith, with Mr. Parry in the chair. (Why complimentary? What has he done? and why a barrister in the chair?) Mr. Smith, in his speech, stated that he should re-open his theatre with opera, and if that did not answer, *horsemanship!* From this last word, coupled with the fact that his "splendid stud" is to be seen at Dummow, I should not be surprised if what is technically called "a hippo-dramatic spectacle" ("The Pluck of Bacon," were to form part of the winter entertainment at Drury Lane.

The first number of the "National Review" has disappointed public anticipations, with the exception of a pleasantly-written article on the "Life and Works of Cowper." The contents are as ponderous as those of its contemporaries, and lack the convincing dignity with which their age has invested them.

JOHN ARTHUR ROEBUCK, M.P.

ON Tuesday evening, there was unusual anxiety and excitement in the House of Commons. A well-known senator—a man of diminutive stature, sandy hair, and a pale, bilious complexion, whose form has been wasted and enfeebled by prolonged illness, rose in his place. It was Mr. Roebuck; and, in a voice feeble, sharp, and somewhat harsh in tone, he proceeded to move his long-threatened, and oft-postponed vote of censure on the ministers of state, whose counsels led to the dreadful disasters experienced during the winter campaign in the Crimea.

Among the parliamentary notables of the present day, the Member for Sheffield is unquestionably one of the most celebrated. He has long been known and recognised as one of the ablest and most intelligent members of that party known and respected in the House of Commons as "the English Radicals;" and he is, for the present, almost their single parliamentary representative. His political career has been one of singular consistency, and, therefore, in this age of "rapid conversion" worthy of attentive consideration and of public respect. His thorough independence, his ardent patriotism, his scorn of all danger in intellectual matters, have long been admired by the country; and, at present, as the exponent of general opinion, in regard to the proceedings of the Sebastopol Committee, he occupies an important space in the public eye, and a position for which he is peculiarly qualified by the boldness of his nature, his freedom from party prejudices, and his genuinely English predilections.

John Arthur Roebuck was born, at Madras, in the year 1801. His grandfather was Dr. Roebuck, a celebrated physician of Birmingham, and the partner of the illustrious James Watt in those scientific speculations, which have added so enormously to the wealth and convenience of the world; his mother was a descendant of Tickell, the friend of Addison; and on one occasion, he had the courage to defy the sneers of the House of Commons, notwithstanding its aristocratic atmosphere, by informing them that he could boast of being descended from ancestors distinguished in science and literature. When a mere boy, Mr. Roebuck went to Canada, but, in 1824, he left that colony to study law in England; and, after being called to the bar, at the Inner Temple, in 1832, he for some time went the Northern circuit. It was not, however, as a forensic advocate that he was to win his reputation.

The House of Assembly in Lower Canada, when disputes of a grave character were pending between that body and the Executive Government, having resolved upon appointing a paid agent in the mother country, selected Mr. Roebuck to fill the office; and, in 1832, when the Reform Bill had become law, when the country was in a state of intense political excitement, and when, in fact, Radicalism was rampant, he had the fortune of being elected to the House of Commons as Member for the City of Bath. Having thus found his way into the political arena, where, of late years, so few adventurers have, for the misfortune of the country, had an opportunity of showing their faces, Mr. Roebuck did not lose a day in signalling his gladiatorial prowess. At the opening of the session of 1833, on that memorable occasion when O'Connell shocked the constitutional notions of Lord J. Russell, by denouncing the Royal Speech as "brutal and bloody," Mr. Roebuck plunged fearlessly into the battle of debate; and, despising meaner antagonists, flew, "with furious ettle," at noble game in the person of the fiery and intellectual patrician, who then enacted the particularly disagreeable part of Secretary for Ireland. Mr. Stanley, who had girded on his armour for a series of as impassioned conflicts as ever shook the walls of Parliament, indulged in a smile indicative of some slight contempt for his new assailant. "I understand the meaning of that smile," exclaimed Mr. Roebuck indignantly, "for, if there is anything more offensively distinguishing than another of the oligarchic aristocracy of this country, it is their readiness to sneer and laugh, when the kind and honest feelings of our common nature are appealed to." On the whole, Mr. Roebuck's maiden speech met with a favourable reception, and was regarded as a successful effort.

At the very opening of his parliamentary career, Mr. Roebuck took up a decided position against the stamp on newspapers; and, in 1835, he became proprietor and editor of a journal entitled "Pamphlets for the People," each number of which contained

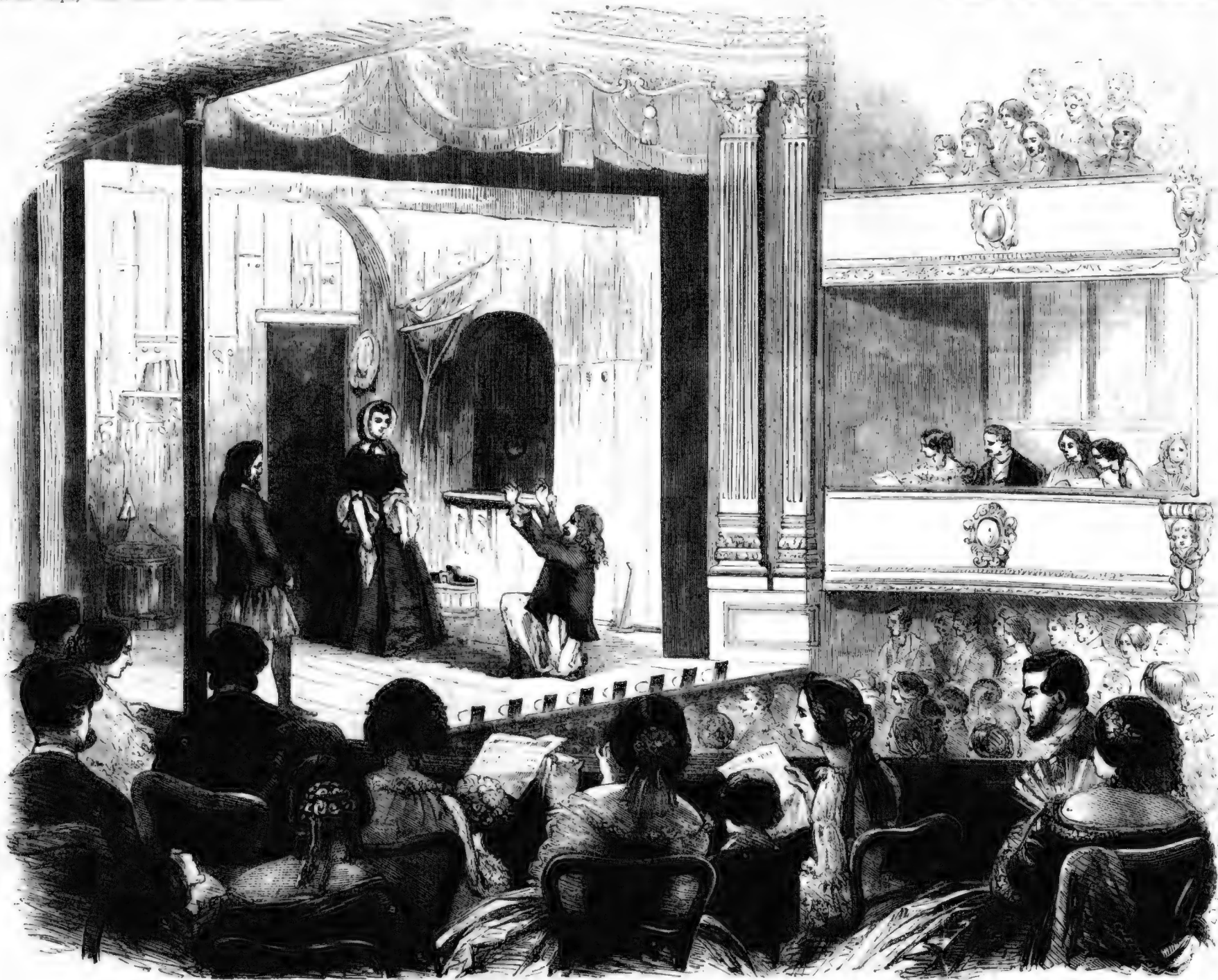


JOHN ARTHUR ROEBUCK, M.P.—(A SKETCH FROM LIFE.)

articles on the political topics of the day. While occupied with this publication, Mr. Roebuck, in a speech in Parliament, made some remarks so peculiarly offensive to the gentlemen of the daily and weekly press that he brought down upon him the heavy and united fire of the leading journals. In retaliation, he bitterly attacked the editors by name, and three of them, irritated at this new kind of hectoring, sent him hostile messages. The challengers, however, were pacified, with the exception of Mr. Black of the "Morning Chronicle," against whom the charges were of so serious a nature as to render explanation out of the question. A hostile meeting, therefore, took place, but, after twice exchanging shots without effect, the combatants were fain to express themselves satisfied, and allow their seconds to lead them off the field.

Mr. Roebuck's position cannot be said to have been improving at this period. His plain speaking, strong language, abrupt manner, and habits of cynical censure, gave offence to the Whigs, whom he denounced as traitors to the popular cause; and when Parliament was dissolved, in 1837, he was unable to procure his re-election. However, after an absence of four years, the constituency of Bath relented; and after the general election of 1841, he again appeared on the benches of the House of Commons. At first he spoke in a tone so temperate, and in a spirit so statesmanlike, that it was supposed he had mastered his peculiarities of temper; but ere long, he gave proofs of having learned little and forgotten little during his exile. In April, 1844, he gave such dire offence to Mr. Smythe, the member for Canterbury, and author of "Historic Fancies," that the latter, perhaps with an anxiety to prove that the new aristocracy could produce men no more afraid of powder and ball than the old nobility were of lance and battle-axe, sent a challenge without delay. But Mr. Roebuck, who would seem to have grown wiser, and changed his views on the subject of duelling since 1835, instead of going out and standing fire, laid the letter before the House of Commons, leaving his foe to exclaim, *Quantum mutatis ab illo hector!*

Mr. Roebuck, as time passed on, found a new antagonist, who, without any reference to Wimbledon Common and pistols, was quite ready and willing to fight out their quarrel on the floor of the House of Commons. This was Mr. Disraeli, who then figured as Member for Shrewsbury. In the course of the numerous and angry debates consequent on Sir R. Peel's sudden conversion on the question of Free Trade, Mr. Roebuck, with characteristic courage, accused Mr. Disraeli of being animated by corrupt and sinister motives—with what was perhaps quite as offensive, preparing and elaborating the sentences with which he assailed the potent First Minister of the Crown; and, finally, with being "a mere artificer of words." On the 27th of February, 1846, Mr. Disraeli retaliated with merciless severity. "I could, no doubt," he said, "have vindicated my character;



SCENE FROM THE "LIGHTHOUSE," AT THE AMATEUR PERFORMANCE AT CAMPDEN HOUSE.

but that would only have made the Hon. and Learned Member for Bath speak once or twice oftener, and really I never feel any wish to hear him. I have had the most corrupt motives imputed to me, but I know how true it is, that a tree must produce its fruit—that a crab-tree will bring forth crab-apples, and that a man of meagre and acid mind, who makes a speech, must make a meagre and acid speech. The Hon. and Learned Member, now assuming the part of general instructor, as formerly of general accuser, would do well to profit by his own precepts, and eschew his melodramatic malignity, and Sadlers' Wells sort of sarcasm. It is very easy indeed to put on that kind of air, wagging the finger, bating the breath, and looking daggers—though using none. This is all extremely fine; and if it came from one justified in using such language and gestures, I should say it was simply ridiculous. Coming from the Hon. Member, it is worse than ridiculous—it is offensive."

Although Mr. Roebuck, during that Parliament, proved himself, on all questions of importance, one of the most ardent, sincere, and energetic of reformers, the constituency of Bath, in spite of its pretensions to Liberalism, had not the good sense to re-elect him in 1847. In consequence of being rejected, he remained out of Parliament for two years, when, fortunately for the country, a vacancy occurred in the representation of Sheffield, and he was elected for that place without opposition. In 1850, notwithstanding his notorious antipathy to the Whigs as a party, he considered it a duty to come to the rescue of Lord Palmerston, upon whose system of intermeddling with the affairs of other countries—especially in those of Greece—the House of Lords had passed a vote of censure; and Mr. Roebuck, by a triumphant majority, carried in the House of Commons a motion expressing retrospective approval of the present Premier's foreign policy.

Having previously signalled his literary ability by his contributions to periodicals, and his book, entitled "The Colonies of England," one of the best treatises on that important subject, Mr. Roebuck, in 1852, published his "History of the Whig Party, of 1830," a work in which he ascribes the whole influence of that political oligarchy with the people of England, to the passing of the Reform Bill, and reprobates their treatment of Lord Brougham, for whom, under all circumstances, he has exhibited a high and sympathetic admiration.

At the last general election, Mr. Roebuck was again returned by the electors of Sheffield; but, from ill-health, he betook himself to retirement, and his voice was not, for some time, heard in Parliament. A few months since, however, when the calamities consequent on the ill-planned and grossly mismanaged expedition to the Crimea were alarming and irritating the country, Mr. Roebuck, in spite of his very infirm health, stood forward to demand inquiry into the cause of such terrible disasters, and was successful in overthrowing the Coalition Cabinet by an immense majority, and obtaining a committee to investigate the state of the army before Sebastopol. And when the Palmerston Ministry was formed—mainly out of the old materials, be it remembered—Mr. Roebuck, by his firmness, brought about another crisis, which purged the Cabinet of those members suspected of Muscovite tendencies. In this matter, indeed, he has been the disinterested exponent of enlightened public opinion; and as the leader of the independent war party, he has presided over and pushed forward the inquiry, in which the nation took so profound and lasting an interest, without fear, favour, or affection. He is eminently qualified, by his antecedents, to perform the patriotic task, and he does his duty without flinching. Mr. Roebuck is not, of course, without his failings. He is rather deficient in tact and delicacy. His love of independence has sometimes been too frequently proclaimed; his patriotism too ostentatiously paraded. His enemies have accused him of attempting to deceive by mock and spurious pretensions, and of concealing servility by severity. But there is no denying that, in days when political tergiversation has become too common an occurrence to excite much surprise—and when Democratic senators, metamorphosed into Conservative placemen, have clung to their offices, ignored their constituencies, and broken their pledges—Mr. Roebuck has stood fast, through good and bad report,

by his opinions and principles as an English Radical; and that he has denounced abuses, and exposed corruption—not in the tone or spirit of a vulgar, heartless demagogue, eager only for his own advantage—but like a man of clear, rational intelligence and practical wisdom, animated by an English heart, and guided by English sympathies, in his honest endeavours to do the imperilled State some service.

THE PEEL STATUE IN CHEAPSIDE.

THE Peel statue, of which we this week give an engraving, and the raising of which was announced in our impression of last week, has been executed by Mr. Behnes. It is situated at the western end of Cheapside, and nearly midway between the General Post Office and the eastern end of "Big Paul's." The weight of the statue is three tons and a half, and its height is 11 feet and 2 inches. It was cast by Messrs. Robinson and Cottam. The stone on which the statue rests was supplied by Messrs. Gibb and Son, of Aberdeen. The base is of Aberdeen, and the die-stone and moulding work are of Peterhead, granite. Mr. Tite, M.P., the architect of the Royal Exchange, is the designer of the pedestal; and the fixture of the blocks, which weighed upwards of 25 tons, was confided to the care of Messrs. Mowlen, Burt, and Freeman, of Paddington. It is worthy of remark, that the laborious work of erecting the pedestal was accomplished within three hours. The ceremony took place in the presence of a large number of the members of the Corporation of the City of London and several men of note in scientific and political circles.

LAUNCH OF THE AGAMEMNON AT BLACKWALL.

ON Saturday afternoon, a large and fashionable party assembled by special invitation on board the American ship *Titan*, in Mr. Green's dockyard at Blackwall, for the purpose of witnessing the launch of the *Agamemnon*, a fine ship of 1,700 tons, belonging to that gentleman, and, we believe, intended for the East India trade, adding another to the splendid fleet of vessels carrying the flag of this great shipbuilder to the East. The *Agamemnon* is perhaps the longest vessel in proportion to her beam yet launched from this yard. She was originally intended for a screw steamer, and was expected to replace the *Mauritius*, destroyed by fire in Southampton Docks, some two or three months ago; but, the company not closing with Mr. Green's offer, he has had her finished for himself, and anticipates that, as a sailing vessel, she will prove a clipper.

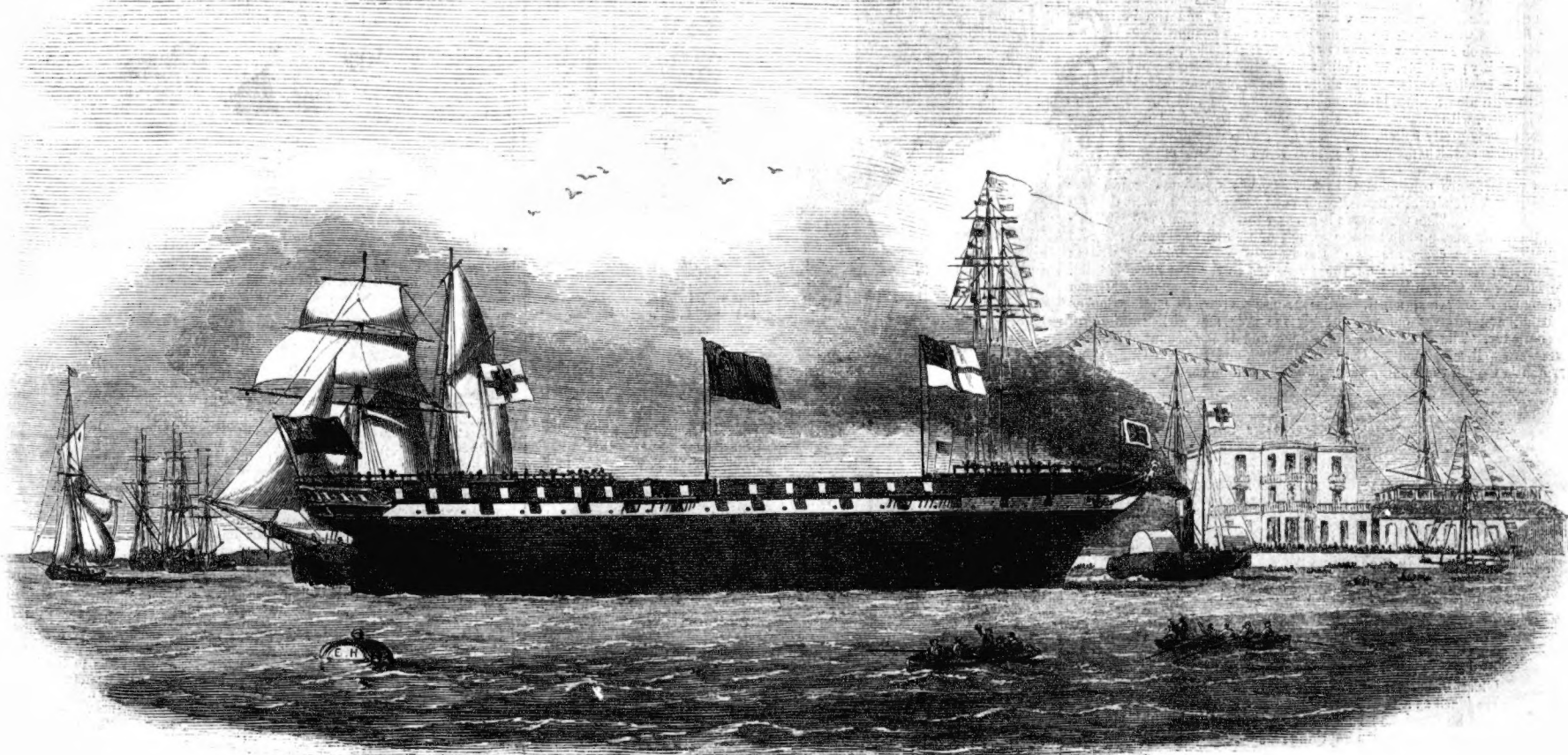
By 2 o'clock, the interior of the yard was crowded with people, and every available spot from which a view could be obtained, in the neighbourhood, was fully occupied. Mr. Green's fine yacht the *Phœnix* was gaily dressed in colours, and moored off the yard, whilst the *Titan* and most of the ships in the East India Docks, particularly Mr. Green's ships, were gaily decked with every description of flag and signal. Immediately after high water, a gun was fired, the shores were knocked away, and amidst the cheers of the multitude and the enlivening strains of a fine band playing "Off she goes," the monster first glided, then rushed madly, into her future home, the liquid girdle of the earth. No accident of any kind occurred, although her stern came in dangerous proximity to a schooner near the Kentish shore (the incident depicted in our illustration). The escape was a narrow one.

The party afterwards adjourned to the mould-loft, which had been decorated with bunting, and nearly 400 sat down to the splendid banquet provided by Mr. Green. Champagne was far more plentiful than water, and the various toasts were fully honoured. The band played several fine selections during the repast, and a dance wound up the pleasures of the day.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—A meeting of a considerable number of the exhibitors of the Crystal Palace was held on Saturday at the Woodman Hotel, Norwood, for the purpose, as stated in the advertisement convening the meeting, of considering matters of very great importance. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Mechi, and assembled to consider the grievances under which the association of exhibitors laboured.



THE CITY STATUE OF SIR R. PEEL.—(BY BEHNES.)



LAUNCH OF THE AGAMEMNON AT BLACKWALL

PRIVATE THEATRICALS AT CAMPDEN HOUSE, KENSINGTON.

SITUATED in spacious and beautiful grounds, built in the Elizabethan style of architecture, and still retaining, notwithstanding some modern alterations and additions, much to remind one of other days, Campden House is replete with historical reminiscences and associations. It was erected in the reign of the first James, about the year 1612, by an individual named Baptist Hickey, who acquired wealth as a silk-mercer in Cheapside, and afterwards, by its influence, was metamorphosed into a baronet, Lord Hickey, and Viscount Campden. Fortune, however, which bestowed upon the silk-mercer wealth, and made him a baronet and a peer, did not bless him with a son to perpetuate the name; and his daughter carried the Campden titles and estates into the family of Noel. From their pleasant suburban residence, thus acquired, the Noel descendants of the silk-mercer were ejected, during the civil war, by the Parliamentary Commissioners; and, after the restoration, they were compensated for this inconvenience by a visit of "the Merry Monarch." As years passed on and times changed, Campden House was inhabited for a period by the Princess Anne, afterwards Queen of England, who considered that the air of the locality was likely to benefit the health of her surviving son, the boy Duke of Gloucester. In 1704, the mansion came into the possession of the Burlington family, who parted with it to a certain Whig lawyer, Lord Lechmere. In the middle of last century, it fell into the hands of a Mr. Pitt; and being then converted into a fashionable boarding-house, it so continued for more than 50 years.

Such is—briefly sketched—the history of the interesting mansion now the residence of Colonel Waugh, where, on the evening of Tuesday, the 10th inst., a party of clever amateurs, under the distinguished auspices of Mr. Charles Dickens, undertook a theatrical performance for the benefit of the Hospital for Consumptive Patients,—one of the most humane institutions, we understand, of which the metropolis can boast. From all accounts, no place in the vicinity of London could have been found in all respects so well adapted for such a purpose, seeing that Campden House contains, not only one of the neatest little theatres ever seen in a private house, but comprises a fine suite of rooms, fitted up and furnished in the Elizabethan style, decorated with curious and antique specimens of the carver's art, and hung with choice examples of the early Italian and Flemish schools of painting. The rooms thus embellished were on this occasion thrown open to the visitors in an interval of the performance, and proved hardly less attractive than the theatrical entertainments.

The performances commenced with a new and original domestic melodrama, by Mr. Wilkie Collins, which has only been acted previously at Tavistock House, the residence of Mr. Dickens, on an occasion of a similar nature. Its story is soon told. Three men, Aaron Gurnock, the father, Martin Gurnock, his son, and Jacob Dale, are shut up as light-keepers in the Eddystone Lighthouse in the middle of the last century, during a long continuance of stormy weather, which for nearly a month prevents any communication with the shore. Provisions ran low, and death by starvation stares them in the face. Aaron Gurnock, the oldest man amongst them, naturally feels the effect of the privation most severely. His mind, as well as his body, fails; and while but half conscious of what he is doing, he reveals to his son the frightful murder of a lady to which he was, many years previously, an accessory. The young man's horror may be conceived, but he is not allowed long to dwell upon it. A ship is seen drifting on the rocks, and a portion of the crew and passengers, amongst whom is a lady, are with difficulty saved by the exertions of the light-keepers. The storm abating, a supply of provisions is brought from the shore, and accompanying the crew who bring them is Phoebe, the daughter of Jacob Dale, and the betrothed of young Gurnock. Deeply attached to her as he is, he shrinks from the idea of uniting himself—the son of a murderer—with her; and, from the hesitation and conflict of feeling thus caused, the little dramatic action and collision of characters by which the piece is distinguished takes its rise. Eventually, however, it turns out that the murderer failed to carry his purpose into effect, and that the lifeless body of his supposed victim was re-animated, after he had left it for dead in a cave on the seashore, and that the Lady Grace saved from the wrecked ship is the identical individual. There is a striking scene between the father and son. Old Aaron, from the youth's manner, and something he has overheard him say, suspects that he himself has, in his previous distraction, betrayed the fatal secret, but does not know to what extent. Gruffly asking his son what is the matter with him, he learns from the answers that the youth knows all. On this the father attempts to disavow the tale, and tries to persuade his son that it was a hallucination of his brain, caused by famine and weakness. While he is speaking, the lady suddenly stands before him, attired as she was when he saw her last, on the night of her supposed murder. Believing her to be a supernatural vision, he sinks into a swoon, overwhelmed with fear and horror; but is at length restored to consciousness, and to the conviction that his supposed victim is before him in the body, and that his soul is lightened of a crime. This is the scene to which our illustration refers. Under these circumstances, of course, young Martin's love and his scruples are reconciled; the course of true love once more runs as smooth as it ought not to do, if the old proverb is to be respected; and the curtain falls upon some significant references to the third putting up of the banns.

Amateur as Mr. Dickens is, few actors could have given a more vivid and truthful picture of old Gurnock's mental wanderings, his remorse, rather the result of physical weakness than moral compunction, the cunning with which on his restoration to health he seeks to remove the impression his confession has made on his son's mind, his superstitious terror at the appearance of the lady, whom he takes for her ghost, and the better and purer feelings with which he ultimately seeks and acknowledges her forgiveness. Jacob Dale was played by Mr. Mark Lemon, with rough but hearty geniality; and Mr. W. Collins and Mr. A. Egg were creditably zealous in smaller parts. The shipwrecked lady was played by Miss Hogarth with nice feeling, intelligence, and dignity; and Phoebe by Miss Mary Dickens, with charming freshness and *naïveté*. She sang a new and exceedingly pretty ballad, by Mr. Linley, with a sweetness, simplicity, and expression which deservedly gained her the warm applause of the audience.

The performance concluded with Mr. Dance's well-known and clever afterpiece, "A Wonderful Woman," which was well acted, and went off with great animation. The personages belonging to the noblesse of the *riche cour*, there was ample room for the display of rich costumes and splendid decorations. The court dresses of the ladies were becoming as well as magnificent; and everything on the stage was in the best possible taste. The Hon. Mrs. George Wrottesley acted the part of Madame Bertrand with much dignity and spirit. Miss Louisa Carew, as Cecile, looked beautiful, and brought out very prettily the arch and girlish *naïveté* of the character. The Marquis de Frontignac and the Viscount de Mellefleurs were well supported by Captain Roebuck and Sir Ivor Guest; and Mr. Ashe's Crepin the cobbler, was a piece of genuine comedy.

The Sphinx.

CHARADE.

TELLING A PLEASANT POLITICAL HISTORY AFTER THE MANNER OF THE LATE THOMAS INGOLDSBY.

I.

My Lord No-matter got up one day;
In the Cabinet new,
He had nothing to do,
And his Lordship felt in a very sad way.
Minister Pam was full of his flam,
His points were polished—well ordered his "eram;"
He'd a very smart style for each smart reply,
And a very smart leer in his smart cock-eye.
Oldest of boys, most boyish of men,
He joked as a Premier at three-score ten.
And he asked, as he answered Lord What's-o'-name's ring,
"Pray, can I offer you anything?"

My Lord Don't-mention-it took a chair,
With a gloomy brow, and dissatisfied air,
And said he would like to take something somewhere.

"Pam at the head,
Wood Home-bred,
Very well suited; in Newcastle's stead,
Pam has turn'd up, though we thought he was dead.
Minister Pam, pray tell me true,
What can a nobleman find to do?"

Pam look'd up. Pam look'd down.
Pam paus'd, and put on a thoughtful frown,
(The first in his life you may wager a crown).
He bit his lip—he scratch'd his head,
Then jump'd from his chair, and excited, he said,
(As of old times, echoes within him rang)
"There's a Conference new at Vienna to slang."

My Lord Don't-ask-me jump'd up at the news,
Couldn't refuse
A plan to his views
So suited, for Fame and for scaring the Blues.
"State measures a score
I've mix'd in before—
Reform Bills, Maynooth, Durham Letters, and more,
But at Kaiser and King
Conditions to fling,
With gold lace on my coat, will be quite a new thing."

My Lord Shall-be nameless jump'd into a train,
The populace cheer'd him with might and main.
In speech and in Press, with wonderful stress,
They vaunted his worth as a hero—naught less,
As the man who could England redeem from a mess.
With the Times at the head, it was everywhere said,
How Lord What-d'-you-call all through his lifetime had sped,
For the cause of true Freedom, 'gainst tyrants made head,
That England at his hands had nothing to dread.

None deem'd that my Lord was, in spirit, no better,
Than simply my first, if not quite to the letter.

II.

The clock strikes two—the clock strikes three—
Who so merry, so merry as we?

Save Drouyn de Lhuys,
Who doesn't quite see
What Gortschakoff tells him, that Europe would be
'Neath Russian dominion more happy and free.
While Herr Graff von Buol is busy at work,
Drawing Lord Thingumy out like a cork.

The clock strikes three—the clock strikes four—
The meeting need trouble itself no more.

Drouyn de Lhuys,
Still firm is he,
And out of five points won't put up with three.
But my Lord Never-mind to Count Buol stands pledg'd
That the Eagle of Austria need never be fleg'd
With the feathers of war—and the patriot reckon'd,
Agrees England's Honour and Fame, to—my second.

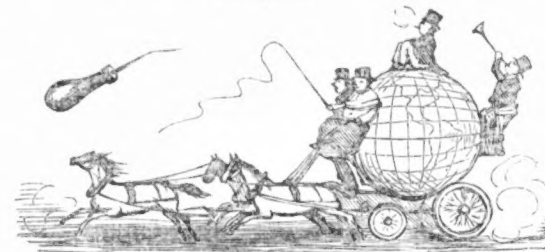
III.

Fiercely, oh, fiercely, the Commons meet,
In angry heat,
Like a Sunday mob in a West End street,
(Ere Lord Robert's bill against liquors and meat
Received the dissent of the nation complete).
There's a frown on each brow, and a threat in each eye,
Of all, save the gentleman, calm and dry,
Doom'd (in political sense) to die,
Who has suffered the despots of Europe to buy
The Honour of England, and dared to deny
His share in the bargain nefarious by,
(If such a word in Parliament might be)—a LIE.
From statesmen of rank, and of lineage high,
They can bear a great deal—but this!—oh, fie!

No! 'tis the last concluding stroke;
Even the calm Sir LYTTON awoke,
And CORBEN, and LAYARD, and BRIGHT arose,
And Jewish Ben D. with the hook in his nose,
And they all speak in concert, as much as to say,
"Hullo! Hullo!
Here's a nice go!

This fellow has dared with the nation to play.
He's a wen—an excrescence; quick, cut him away,
Ere we grow to the jest of realm, city, and town,
To be done by a traitor so thoroughly brown."

Nought, in his Lordship's defence was said;
So my whole for ever went home to bed.



ALL THE



REBUS.

ANSWER TO CHARADE IN LAST NUMBER.

Long-fellow.

ANSWER TO REBUS.

Pride seorns a director, and Choler a counsellor.
(P rides corn; S, a director; A-N-D collar a counsellor.)

THE COURT.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE PRINCESS LOUISA AND PRINCE ARTHUR have been attacked with scarlatina. Their Royal Highnesses are going on very favourably.

THE SAME DISEASE has declared itself in his Royal Highness Prince Leopold, who was left at Buckingham Palace in consequence of a slight accident.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT, accompanied by the King of the Belgians and the Count of Flanders, embarked in the royal yacht, Victoria and Albert, on Friday afternoon, and went towards the Needles. Her Majesty with the Princess Charlotte of Belgium, and the Princess Royal, cruised in the Fairy.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT to Paris, which had at first been intended to take place on the 2d of August, is now definitively fixed for the 17th.

THE QUEEN AND THE CRIMEAN HEROES.—The Queen's photographer has been instructed to visit Fort Pitt and Brompton Hospitals for the purpose of taking the likenesses of all the Crimean men. Her Majesty has given a presentation to St. Ann's Asylum, to the son of the late Quartermaster Hill, Grenadier Guards, who died while on service in the Crimea. The second surviving daughter of the late Sir George Cathcart, is to be a Maid of Honour. The Queen has given apartments in Hampton Court to the widows of General Strangways and Admiral Boxer.

LORD MELVILLE, K.C.B., now Commander of the troops in Scotland, will probably proceed to the Crimea, to take the command of a division. Like General Markham, Lord Melville was present in the Canadian rebellion with the 3rd, and served during the Punjab campaign of 1848-9 in command of the 60th Rifles, and subsequently of the Bombay column of the army at the siege of Mooltan and at Goojerat.

THE FOREIGN LEGION.—The Duke of Cambridge has been appointed generalissimo of the Foreign Legion. His Royal Highness having resided for several years in Hanover, where his father, the late Duke, was the representative of William the Fourth, the Germans consider him as one of themselves, and, being well acquainted with their habits and dispositions, speaking German fluently, his nomination to the high post will be hailed with satisfaction by the whole Legion. His Royal Highness will accompany the Legion to the Crimea. The enlistment is now proceeding with considerable activity. Among the corps to be raised are 10,000 Germans, 5,000 Swiss, 5,000 Italians, and 20,000 Turks. Beaton's irregular cavalry is to consist of 4,000 sabres. Ensign Carl von Blucher, grandson of the Marshal, has joined the Legion.

NAPOLEON'S LAST MEDICAL ATTENDANT.—Dr. Archibald Arnot, of the 20th Regiment of Foot, who attended Napoleon during his last illness at St. Helena, and held the right hand of the ex-Emperor while the latter was drawing his last breath, died on the 6th inst., in his 84th year, at Kirkcounsell Hall, in the County of Dumfries.

HER MAJESTY'S NEW STEAM YACHT made another trial of her steaming qualities round the Isle of Wight on Saturday, and made the circuit in three hours and ten minutes.

DUEL BETWEEN A RUSSIAN AND AN ENGLISHMAN.—A duel was recently fought between representatives of the hostile nations, in a dark room in San Francisco. The Englishman, not wishing to have blood on his hands, fired his pistol up the chimney, and to his horror, down came the Russian.

A WHIRLWIND IN PARIS.—A whirlwind passed over the French capital on Monday about half-past one o'clock, lasting three or four minutes. A large tree in the Tuileries was snapped in two, and several tiles and chimney-pots were blown off. There are reports of serious accidents occurring to people in the streets.

A PIG UNDER CHLOROFORM.—A fine pig in Teviotdale having lately had its leg broken, a veterinary surgeon pronounced amputation necessary. A proper dose of chloroform was accordingly administered, and "grumpy" having been reduced to a state of blessed ignorance, the operation was successfully performed, and the animal, according to latest inquiries, was doing well.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Registrar-General's return for the last, like that for the previous week, indicates a favourable state of the public health. The deaths of 941 persons—namely, 515 males and 426 females, were registered in London in the week that ended on Saturday. The result of the comparison of the corresponding weeks of the last 10 years shows a difference of about 100 in favour of last week.

A RUSSIAN EMBASSY.—A Polish Jew, named Rzyminski, with beard and moustaches, who has been for some time hanging about Dover under circumstances calculated to excite suspicion, was brought before the Mayor of that borough, at the Petty Sessions, charged with attempting to induce soldiers of the Foreign Legion, encamped at Shoreham, to desert from the service of her Majesty. He was brought up at the Dover Police Court on Friday week, and committed for trial.

COLONEL FLEURY, the colonel of the Guides, has married Mlle. Calais St. Paul, a daughter of a rich homme d'affaires of Paris. On this occasion the Emperor made the colonel the munificent present of 500,000 fr. from his private purse, and also settled a pension of 12,000 francs a year to make things pleasant to a lady who went down on her knees to supplicate his Majesty to prevent the marriage.

TWO RULES FOR A COUNTRY PARSON.—I have laid down two rules for the country: first, not to smite the partridges; for if I fed the poor, and comforted the sick, and instructed the ignorant, yet I should be nothing worth if I smote the partridge. If anything ever endangers the Church, it will be the strong propensity to shooting for which the clergy are remarkable. Ten thousand good shots dispersed over the country do more harm to the cause of religion than the arguments of Voltaire and Rousseau. The squire never reads, but is it possible he can believe that religion to be genuine, whose ministers destroy his game?—Sydney Smith's Letters.

HALF-HOLIDAY ON SATURDAY.—The Early Closing Association, encouraged by the success that has already attended their efforts to promote a weekly half-holiday, to induce an earlier payment of wages, and by the growing disposition on the part of employers to extend to the industrial classes generally leisure during the week, intend, on an early day, to hold a general public meeting in the City, with a view to the extension of the above important measures to all those departments of business and occupations, where practicable, and to which they have not yet been applied.

THE NATURAL HISTORY CHAIR, EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.—It is generally understood that this Chair will be conferred, either in main or in part, on Dr. Allman, at present Professor of Botany in the University of Dublin. Dr. Allman has the reputation of being a great botanist, zoologist, comparative anatomist, and physiologist.

JAN HANNIK PRATMASTER, of Amsterdam, who absconded recently with Dutch securities to the value of £800, was apprehended on Monday in Liverpool, soon after having changed the notes at a broker's in that town. He was taken to the Bridewell, where he contrived to hang himself in the evening.

NEW CHURCH AT BAYSWATER.—On Tuesday, the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London duly consecrated the new and beautiful ecclesiastical edifice, which has been in course of erection for the last two years in the Bayswater Road, near the new carriage entrance to Kensington Gardens. It has received the name of Christ Church.

HOMES FOR LABOURERS.—There is a bill in the House of Lords for facilitating the erection of dwelling-houses for the labouring classes. The object of the measure is to afford facilities for the erection of healthy and commodious dwellings for the labouring classes. It is proposed to form a company to carry out the act, and the jurisdiction of the county courts to be exercised in all matters relating to the subject.

THOUGHTS BEYOND THE REACHES OF ANATOMY.—Dear Murchison.—Many thanks for your address, which I will diligently read. May there not be some one among the infinite worlds where men and women are all made of stone? Perhaps of Parian marble? How infinitely superior to flesh and blood! What a paradise for you, to pass eternity with a graywacke woman!—Sydney Smith's Letters.

ANGLING IN THE TWEED.—A harsh and impolitic attempt having been made by Lord Somerville, a Scottish peer, to prevent the people of Melrose and its vicinity from angling for trout on that part of the Tweed where he possesses some salmon fishings, and even to exclude them from walking, as hitherto, on the river's banks, the inhabitants of the far-famed and oft-visited little town have, with becoming spirit, held a public meeting for the purpose of raising funds to meet the cost of defending an action of interdict, and of vindicating the immemorial popular privilege.

NEWSPAPERS TO THE COLONIES.—From a correspondence which has passed between Mr. Rowland Hill and Sir Cusack P. Roney, it appears that in sending newspapers to the colonies, the general rule henceforth will be to charge 1d., plus any foreign transit rate on despatch; but such charge will carry the newspaper to its destination. In like manner the Colonial Governments will collect a prepaid postage on newspapers sent to this country, such papers being delivered free. The 2d. charged on papers to Canada, when sent through the United States (if not so sent the charge is only 1d.), includes the transit rate of 1d. heretofore paid on delivery. The same rate of charge will extend to all places abroad, except where existing treaties interfere; and, "as soon as practicable," says Mr. Hill, "these exceptions, I have no doubt, will be got rid of, and the rule made strictly uniform."

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, GALWAY.—An application has been made to the Horse Guards by the heads of the Queen's College, in Galway, to sanction the addition of a military school to that institution, in which certificates or diplomas, as in the case of Woolwich, would be granted to the successful students entitling them to commissions in her Majesty's service.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

John Ballard was charged at Marlborough Street with robbing Commander Armytage, R.N., Montague Square, of his watch, and William Roach was charged with attempting to rescue Ballard from custody.

The prosecutor said he went into Hyde Park on Sunday afternoon about four o'clock, and when near the Serpentine, seeing a crowd of persons approaching, he walked in a different direction, but he was instantly surrounded by a gang of persons, and his watch was snatched from his pocket by Ballard. He seized the prisoner, but the watch had been evidently passed to his confederates. He called for assistance, and with great difficulty the prisoner was secured. The capture of the prisoner was no sooner effected, than he was struck on the head with a stick.

A police constable said he was on duty in Hyde Park on Sunday in plain clothes, and heard the prosecutor say that the prisoner had stolen his watch. He immediately caught hold of Ballard, whose companions instantly began pelting him with stones. The other prisoner, Roach, struck him under the ear and knocked him down. While on the ground, several of the mob inflicted many severe kicks upon him, and his hat was knocked off and stolen. The prisoners were at length lodged in the station-house, but the watch was not found.

Commander Armytage begged to bear testimony to the prompt and praiseworthy conduct of the constable throughout the affair, and the Magistrate made a note on the police-sheet in reference to this statement in favour of the constable.

Inspector Shaw said he was in Hyde Park, close to the scene of the robbery, and assisted in taking Ballard into custody. The prisoner Roach called on the mob not to allow the police to take Ballard into custody. Roach also struck him on the cheek, and when taken into custody he had a constable's stick in his hand.

A police constable said, while he was assisting to take Ballard into custody, Roach came up, struck him, wrested his stick from him, and knocked him down. Roach escaped at the time, but witness saw him hooting and hallooing about an hour afterwards, with the stick in his hand which had been taken from him.

Roach said he was not in Hyde Park, but was committed for a month. Ballard was sent for trial for stealing the watch.

Henry Austin and Joseph Dixon, two lads, one 18, the other 15, were charged with throwing stones at the police in Hyde Park.

A police constable saw the prisoners with a mob of several thousand persons, who were following a constable at that time engaged in conveying a prisoner to the station-house. Several stones were thrown at the constables, one of which, thrown by Dixon, struck the constable on the head. A gentleman seized Dixon, and handed the prisoner over to him. The prisoner Austin headed the mob, and called out to Dixon to lie down and resist being taken. Both prisoners were at last lodged in the station-house.

Mr. Stredder, builder, said he was in the Park, and, seeing indications of a disturbance, he and several persons formed themselves into a committee to protect the constables and preserve the peace. In this they were aided by several noblemen and gentlemen. The attention of the committee was called to a half-drunken man, who was addressing the mob, and while the harangue was proceeding it became evident that a riot was in contemplation. He witnessed the stone-throwing by Dixon, and saw Austin resist capture by the police.

The father of Dixon interceded for a lenient punishment, affirming that his son had been educated in moral and religious habits; but the Magistrate said—"The father of the boy Dixon has spoken in favour of the character of his son; but, however painful it is to me, I must do my public duty. I regret that I am compelled to inflict the sentence of one month's imprisonment on him. These boys, it is quite clear, can be impelled by no other motive or object than love of mischief in joining these mobs, and they must be dealt with accordingly. I am glad to have to notice that the conduct of the witness Stredder and his associates was of the most praiseworthy character, and I have no doubt that the same feeling which induced them to come forward in aid of the police will always be shown when proper occasions present themselves."

The defendants were committed for one month each.

STRAHAN, PAUL, AND BATES.—The defendants appeared again at Bow Street on Friday 18. In accordance with the desire of Mr. Bodkin, on the part of the prosecution, the prisoners were nominally remanded—with the sanction of all parties—for another week. They will again be brought up on the 1st of August.

THE PRINCESS CZARTORISKY'S CONCERT FOR THE POLES.—The Princess Marcelline Czartorsky, the niece by marriage of the venerable Prince Adam Czartorsky, a name dear to the people of Poland and to all who feel an interest in their cause, has come from Paris for the purpose of assisting her countrymen resident in England by giving a concert in aid of the benevolent fund of the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland. This concert took place on Tuesday morning, at the mansion of the Marquis and Marchioness of Breadalbane, in Park Lane. A large number of noble ladies exerted themselves, as patronesses, in behalf of the undertaking. The Gothic hall, in which the concert was given, was crowded with a most distinguished and fashionable company; and the price of the tickets of admission being £2, a substantial sum must have been obtained for the benevolent fund.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.—The Select Committee on this subject met on Friday, the 13th instant. Dr. Hassall, the first witness, said that he was of opinion that adulterations were very prevalent in nearly all the articles of food, and to the same extent in articles which formed the necessities of life. Amongst the articles proved on analysis to have been injuriously adulterated were anatto, arrowroot, bread, cinnamon, coffee, chicory, Cayenne-pepper, custard and egg powders, curry powder, flour, ginger, gin, rum, isinglass, milk, mustard, marmalade, porter and stout, oatmeal, pickles, potted meats and fish, preserves, pepper, snuff, sugar (rarely), spices, mixed spices, sauces, tea, and vinegar. The substances employed in the process were chalk, sawdust, red-lead, alum, mangold wurzel, coriander seed, arsenite of copper, chromate of potash, pounded glass, red earth, Venetian red, vermilion, Prussian blue, black-lead, &c. Tea was adulterated with exhausted leaves of tea or the leaves of the sycamore. Arrowroot, mustard, and some other articles had scarcely a particle of the substance which they were represented to be. Tea leaves were dried up, coloured with offensive matter, and resold as genuine tea. In the manufacture of pickles copper was extensively used, the greatest proportion being in vegetables, such as gherkins and beans. Red lead was often found in Cayenne pepper, and was apt to be very injurious to the system if taken two or three times a week. Chromate of lead was used so extensively in snuff as frequently to produce paralysis. Marmalade was generally made of turnips. Scarcely a year passed without deaths arising from the consumption of coloured confectionery. The largest consumption was amongst children, who were consequently the principal victims. All gins were made from special preparations, called gin flavours. Juniper was the material from which gin was partly made. None of the ingredients were poisonous. Coriander seed was used largely. Gin drinkers did not know the taste of pure gin. It was not unusual for medical men to order gin to be drunk, in dropsy cases especially. In the case of drugs, he believed the adulteration lay with the grinders.

A REAL SAILING MATCH.—The barque *Allen Ker*, of Glasgow, and the barque *Earl of Harewood*, both weighed anchor on 22nd Feb., 1855, at Callao Roads, Peru, within half an hour of each other, and after sailing nineteen successive days together, parted company, from which time neither sighted the other until the morning of 1st July, about twenty miles off Cape Clear. When day broke they were not half a mile apart, and they both anchored within half an hour of each other in Queenstown Roads, to which port they were bound for orders. The distance sailed by these ships on a rough calculation is 11,700 nautical, or about 13,000 British miles.

THE LATE JUSTICE TALFOURD.—The mural monument—a bust of life size—subscribed for by the members of the Oxford Circuit, and sculptured by Lough, to the memory of the late lamented Justice Talfourd, has been placed in the Crown Court, Stafford, against the wall between the two galleries.

DEATH THROUGH BATHING WHILE INTOXICATED.—On Tuesday morning, an inquest was held on the body of Mr. Joseph Ryan, commercial clerk, who was drowned in the Grand Junction Trunk of the Royal Surrey Canal. It appeared that the deceased, accompanied by two friends, proceeded to the Grand Surrey Canal to bathe. He was not perfectly sober, but insisted on going into the water; and in swimming from one bank to the other, he became exhausted, and was thus nearly drowned. One of his friends, seeing his difficulty to reach the opposite bank, told him that he would bring his clothes, but he jumped in again to return, and sank almost immediately, the body not being recovered for about two hours. The coroner said that when the system was excited with drink, if a person plunged into the water, it almost in every case produced apoplexy. He hoped that the knowledge of such a fact would act as a caution to persons fond of bathing.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

CHELTEMHAM.—On Saturday, the 13th inst., Mr. G. C. L. Berkeley was elected member for Cheltenham. At the close of the poll, the numbers were—for Berkeley, 760; Radler, 178; majority, 582.

EAST NORFOLK.—On Tuesday, the 17th, Mr. Stacey was elected member for East Norfolk, without opposition, in the room of Mr. Woodhouse, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON.—An influential meeting has been held for considering the present position of two of the members for the City. Among the gentlemen present, there was an unanimous feeling that Lord John Russell had forfeited all claims to the continued confidence of the constituency, and that a requisition ought to be got up, calling on him to resign. With regard to Baron Rothschild, the adverse feeling was not quite unanimous; but it was very nearly so.

THE TOBACCO DUTIES IN DANGER.—It is understood that an Act of last session, for amending the Customs' duties, is so worded, that it may be doubted whether it does not endanger a considerable part of the revenue. The Act says, that "on and after the 8th day of August, 1854, in lieu and instead of all other duties and drawbacks of customs, there shall be raised, levied, collected, and paid in to her Majesty, upon goods imported into, or exported from, any part of Great Britain and Ireland, the several duties of customs, and there shall be allowed the several drawbacks, as the same are respectively inserted, described, and set forth, in Table A. to the Act annexed." Now, as the said table only contained some of the articles on which duties have hitherto been levied, it is doubtful whether the duties on the articles omitted have not since been levied without the sanction of law. It is believed that the opinion of the law officers of the Crown has been taken, and that, according to them, no necessity exists for any remedial measure. The expediency, however, of leaving so important a branch of the revenue open to any question as to its legality, may well be questioned; and, in any event, this extraordinary blunder is worthy of the attention of the Administrative Reform Association, as an instance of the careless manner in which our statutes are drawn, even under the auspices of so immaculate a statesman as the late Chancellor of the Exchequer.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE NIMROD, sailing transport, came into Portsmouth harbour on the 11th, and landed the sick and wounded troops she had brought from the East. The hospital cases were eight in number. The remainder of the invalids, upwards of 220, were in a fair state of recovery. They were marched to barracks for temporary accommodation.

THE INDIANA, steam transport No. 147, arrived at Devonport on the 11th from Portsmouth, to embark a detachment of the 31st Regiment for the Crimea.

THE ANDES, screw iron chartered transport, No. 100, Captain M'Arthur, arrived at Spithard on Sunday morning from the Black Sea, touching at Maida, which port she left on the 3rd instant. She has brought home many invalids and passengers.

LARGE REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE CRIMEA continue to be despatched with all possible speed from the Irish ports.

CLUB AT ALDERSHOTT.—We understand that, at the general request of the officers both of the line and the militia, the Commander-in-Chief has given his permission for the formation of a club at Aldershot for their use and accommodation. The club will be subject to military regulation. The Government gives its sanction to the enterprise, having, through Lord Panmure, granted the use of the ground for its site. The club will be conducted on the same principles as the leading clubs of the metropolis.

AQUATICS.

REGATTAS AND MATCHES TO COME.

JULY 23.—Upper Eight, at Eton. 24.—Lowestoft Regatta. 24, 25.—Royal Western Yacht Club (Ireland) Regatta, at Culla, Belfast Lough. 25.—St. Mary's Rotherhithe Regatta. 25.—Prince of Wales Yacht Club Sailing Match—entries close 21st July. 26.—Eastern Thames Regatta. 30.—All Saints, Poplar, and Blackwall Regatta. 30.—Surrey, Christchurch, and Lambeth Regatta. 30.—Bankside Regatta. 30.—West Hartlepool Regatta.

YACHTING INTELLIGENCE.

ROYAL YACHT SQUADRON.

COWES, JULY 16.—Yachts at and about the station:—Brilliant, Alarm, Titania, Gipsy Queen, Wildfire, Leda, Resolution, Gloriana, Cecile, Aurora, Julia, Dream, Sultana, Stormranch, Zor, Caprice, Spider, Shark, Frisk, Minx.

ROYAL VICTORIA YACHT CLUB.

RYDE, JULY 16.—Yachts at and off the station:—Aurora, Thomas Le Marchant, Esq.; Sapphire, J. H. Baxendale, Esq.; Wildfire, Sir Percy Shelley, Bart.; Freak, Henry Trower, Esq.; Haidee, R. Warner Wheeler, Esq.; Una, William Alcock, Esq.; Bittern, E. C. Scholefield, Esq.; Sylph, Geo. Best, Esq.; Gem, Sir John Barker Mill, Bart.

ROYAL LONDON YACHT CLUB.

THE monthly meeting of this Club took place on Monday last, at the Club house, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi. The Commodore in the chair. The whole of the candidates on the list were elected members, and several others proposed for the next ballot. The Commodore drew the attention of the meeting to the forthcoming Regattas at Lowestoft, Dover, and Boulogne, and expressed a hope that he should see the Royal London Yacht Club well represented at each. The motion of Mr. Halford, seconded by Mr. W. Goodson, that in future the London and Westminster Bank shall be the bank for the Club, was carried unanimously.

ROYAL MERSEY YACHT CLUB.

On Tuesday, the 10th inst., the match for the Royal Mersey Yacht Club Challenge Cup, came off over the Queen's Course. During the morning it had been blowing very fresh from E.N.E., veering south and east, accompanied by heavy rain, and it looked about to be as dirty a day as ever wetted jacket going round the N.W. Lightship. As the morning advanced, however, the rain ceased, and the sun shone forth brilliantly. At ten o'clock, a.m. the following little clippers took up their berths:—

Name.	Tons.	Owner.
Zilla	21	George Harrison, Esq.
Mirage	18	G. R. Woodward, Esq.
Coralie	35	Andrew E. Byrne, Esq.
Windward	16	W. Sinclair, Esq.
Surprise	16	W. Tetley, Esq.

The Spray of the Ocean, Thomas Brassy, jun., Esq., and the Seabird, 33 tons, H. Mellings, Esq., hon. sec., were also entered, but did not come to the starting point. The gun for the start was fired, and the Windward led the way, closely followed by the Surprise, Mirage, Zilla, and Coralie. The Coralie was the favourite, and long odds could have been obtained at the start, that the Lily white banner, with the azure cross, would prove the victorious flag. The Surprise, however, seemed determined to have a little of the fun, and took the lead from the Windward, and, bounding away before the light south-east breeze, gallantly challenged the Coralie to a hand-to-hand struggle. As they neared the Bell beacon, the Coralie ran rapidly up on the Surprise; however, just as she reached her, the wind died away momentarily, and a little puff came stealing up in the lee-bow of the Surprise, hard down went her helm, round she came, was away again to windward, and declared unmistakably to win; onward she bounded, and from this point steadily increased her lead, and the flag-ship was rounded in the following order and time:—Surprise, 7h. 56m. 16s.; Coralie, 8h. 22m. 5s.

RICHMOND AMATEUR REGATTA.

The Richmond Amateur Regatta, under the patronage of the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Ougley, and the nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood, took place on Saturday last. The weather being remarkably fine, there was a very fashionable and numerous assemblage of company in the gardens of the Castle Hotel and on board the state barge engaged for the occasion. The sport itself, however, was of a very mediocre character.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

THE plan upon which the new French loan of £30,000,000 is to be raised is now officially before the public, and the scheme is precisely the same as in the last occasion, viz., a direct appeal to the nation. From the great success which attended the raising of the previous loan, and the immense amount of capital now in the hands of the middle classes in France, there is no doubt whatever entertained but that the whole amount will be subscribed for immediately the subscription lists are opened, especially as the payments will be monthly, extending over not less than eighteen months. The Four-and-a-Half per Cent Rente will be issued at 92½, with interest from the 22nd of March last; and the Three per Cent at 62½, with interest from the 22nd of June. As sums as low as 10 francs of rente will be received, thereby enabling all classes to participate in the loan, English capitalists are not expected to subscribe; however, there is no prospect of heavy shipments of bullion from this side to meet any of the payments.

A somewhat singular feature in the Foreign loan is the fact that notwithstanding a new loan of £5,000,000 is about to be contracted in this country for Turkey—the interest upon which is to be guaranteed jointly by England and France, the bonds of the last loan have become in great favour, and a considerable advance has taken place in the quotations. Is it that Turkey is better able to pay interest upon £8,000,000 than upon £3,000,000? Or have the parties in the Stock Exchange discovered that Turkish Bonds have been at too low an ebb? We have very few changes to notice in the value of most National Stocks, since our last. On the whole, a steady business has been done in them, and numer-

ous Bulls are inclined to operate on the arrival of favourable news from the Crimea. In the event of Sebastopol falling into the hands of the Allies, there will, no doubt, be some important changes in the prices. The following are the leading quotations:—Bank Stock 213½; Three per Cent Reduced, 91½; Three per Cent Consols, for transfer, 90½ 91; Ditto for the account, 90½ 91; New Three per Cent Consols, 92½ 93; New Five per Cent Consols, 117; Long Annuities, 1885, 16½; India Stock, 230; Opium, 4½ 4½ prem.; Exchequer Bills, 23s. to 27s.; India Bonds, 34s. to 37s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 101.

There has been a great abundance of unemployed capital, and the money market has ruled very easy, the best paper having been discounted at 3 per cent. In the Stock Exchange, loans for short periods may be had as low as 2 per cent. per annum.

With the exception of Turkish Bonds having advanced about 3 per cent., the transactions in the Foreign House have been limited. Chilean Six per Cents have marked 103; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 75½; ditto Three per Cents, 55; Russian Five per Cents, 100½; ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90 ex div.; Sardinian Five per Cents, 86½; Spanish Three per Cents, 36½ ex div.; ditto for the account, 36½; ditto New Deferred, 18½; Turkish Six per Cents, 86½; ditto Small, 86½; Dutch Four per Cents, 95½.

The imports of bullion have been about £250,000. Although the inquiry for gold on Continental account has increased, the quantity forwarded this week has been small. The last returns of the Bank of France show a decrease of over £3,000,000 sterling in the stock of bullion.

The transactions in all railway shares have been limited, yet no material change has taken place in the quotations. Bristol and Exeter have been 93; Caledonian 63; Chester and Holyhead, 14; Eastern Counties, 12; Great Northern, 92; Great Western, 67½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 81½; London and Brighton, 101; London and North Western, 100½; South Western, 83½; Midland, 71½; North British, 30½; South Wales, 30½.

Joint-stock bank shares have ruled very firm. Australasian, 84½; Colonial, 20½ ex div.; Commercial of London, 32½; London and County, 37½; London Joint-stock, 29½; Oriental, 39½; Provincial of Ireland, 51½; Union of London, 29 ex div.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The show of English Wheat in our market, this week, has been very limited, and the demand for all kinds has rated somewhat active, at an advance in the quotations of from 1s. to 2s. a quarter. There has been an improved sale for foreign wheat, at 1s. and 2s. per quarter more money. The imports continue on a limited scale. Floating cargoes have changed hands firmly, at extreme quotations. Good heavy barley has been in request, at full prices; but inferior qualities have commanded very little attention. The malt trade has ruled inactive, on former terms. The imports having been extensive, the oat trade has been rather dull, and out-of-condition samples have given way in value 6d. per quarter. Beans and peas have realised former terms. There has been more doing in flour, and country markets have tended upwards.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Essex and Kent White Wheat, 76s. to 85s.; ditto, Red, 70s. to 78s.; Malting Barley, 32s. to 36s.; Distilling ditto, 31s. to 34s.; Grinding ditto, 31s. to 33s.; Malt, 66s. to 72s.; Rye, 40s. to 43s.; Feed Oats, 26s. to 27s.; Potato ditto, 27s. to 30s.; Tick Beans, 39s. to 43s.; Pigeon, 42s. to 48s.; White Peas, 42s. to 47s.; Maple, 40s. to 42s.; Gray, 37s. to 40s. per quarter; Town-made Flour, 65s. to 70s.; Town Households, 64s. to 65s.; Country, 57s. to 60s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, 52s. to 56s. per 280 lbs.

CATTLE.—The supply of Beasts on offer this week, has been very moderate both as to number and quality. For all kinds, the demand has ruled steady, at fully the late advance in the quotations. Prime sheep have changed hands freely, at full prices; but inferior breeds have met a slow sale. Lambs have ruled about stationary, with a moderate demand. Calves have sold on rather easier terms; but pigs have been tolerably firm. Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; Mutton, 3s. 4d. to 5s.; Lamb, 4s. 8d. to 6s.; Veal, 4s. 2d. to 5s. 2d.; Pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lbs. to sink the offals.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—Owing to the continuance of warm weather, very limited supplies of meat have been on offer in these markets, and the trade has ruled steady as follows:—Beef from 3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; Mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.; Lamb, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; Veal, 3s. 10d. to 5s.; Pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d. per lb. by the carcass.

SEA.—The supplies on offer continue somewhat extensive, and the business doing is confined to immediate wants, at last week's quotations. Common sound congou is selling at 8½d. per lb.

SUGAR.—Privately, as well as at public sale, a full average business has been transacted in nearly all kinds of raw sugar, at the extreme rates paid last week. In some instances they have advanced 6d. per cwt. Floating cargoes are in request, at very full prices. Refined goods—the show of which is moderate—are tolerably firm. Brown lumps, 47s. to 47s. 6d.; and low to fine grocery, 48s. to 52s. per cwt.

MOLASSES.—Cuba, 17s. 6d. to 18s., and low to fine West India, 17s. to 18s. per cwt.; Porto Rico, 17s. to 18s.

COFFEE.—All kinds are firm, at very full prices. Good ordinary native Ceylon is selling at 47s. 6d. per cwt.

COCOA.—Fine qualities are in good request, at very full prices. Inferior kinds are a slow sale. Bengal, 13s. 6d. to 15s. 6d.; Madras, 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d.;—cargos, 12s. to 13s.; Java, 13s. to 15s. 6d.; Penang, 12s. to 13s.; Arracan, 13s. to 13s. 6d. per cwt.

PROVISIONS.—Fine Irish butter is rather dearer, with a firm market. In the value of English and foreign parcels, very little change has taken place. Fine weekly Dorset, 102s. to 104s. per cwt. The bacon market is firm, at an improvement in value of 1d. per cwt. Hams and cheese move off steadily, and the quotations have an upward tendency.

WOOL.—About 27,000 bales have changed hands at the public sales still in progress, and prices show an advance of 1d. per lb. English Wool is in good request, at full prices. The week's imports of Colonial amount to about 18,000 bales.

COTTON.—We continue to have a very moderate inquiry for all kinds, at about last week's currency.

HEMP AND FLAX.—Baltic Hemp is steady, at full quotations. Petersburg clean is selling at £45 to £45 10s.; half clean, £41 10s. to £42 per ton. East India qualities move off slowly, on former terms. Flax, Jute and Coir goods command full prices.

METALS.—We have had an active market for Tin and Tin plates, the prices of which have had an upward tendency. The Iron trade is flat, yet there has been no disposition shown to force sales. Copper and steel are quite as dear as last week.

INDIGO.—The quarterly sales continue to progress freely at fully the opening quotations.

SPIRITS.—Rum is steady. Proof Leewards, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d.; East India, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. per gallon. There is a good inquiry for Brandy, the value of which has improved 1d. per gallon. Geneva, 2s. 9d. to 3s. 6d.; Malt Spirit, 10s. 10d. per gallon.

HOPS.—Very favourable accounts having arrived from the plantations, the demand for all kinds of Hops is heavy, and the Duty is called £25,000. Nearly 900 bales of American Hops have come in. Mid and East Kent pockets £14 to £18; Wild of Kent, £11 to £13; Sussex, £10 10s. to £12 per cwt.

POTATOES.—The supplies of new English are increasing, and nearly 20,000 baskets of Foreign have come in. The former are selling at from 8s to £10 per cwt.; the latter, 2s. 6d. to 5s. per basket.

COALS.—Hasting's Hartley, 18s. 3d.; Tanfield Moor Butes, 15s. 6d.; Wylem, 17s. 6d.; Gosport, 18s. 3d.; Kiddle, 18s. 3d.; Belmont, 19s.; Lambton, 21s.; Stewart's, 21s. 6d. per ton.

OIL.—Lime Oil has changed hands freely, at 43s. 6d. per cwt., on the spot. Most other oils are steady, at full prices. Turpentine moved off slowly—Spirits at 32s. to 33s. and Rough, 8s. to 8s. 6d. per cwt.

TALLOW.—We have a steady demand for P. Y. C. on the spot, which is selling at 53s. 3d. to 53s. 9d. per cwt. Town Tallow is scarce; rough fat, 2s. 10½d. per 8 lbs. The stock of Tallow is now 44,824 casks, against 34,438 ditto in 1854, and 19,434 in 1853.

LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JULY 13.

BANKRUPTS.—EDWARD TITCOMB, Clewer, Berkshire, builder—EDWARD OYER, Barossa Terrace, Cambridge Road, Bethnal Green, oilman—ALBERT KING, Chiswell Street, Finsbury, wholesale grocer—LOUIS DELOREME, Broad Street Buildings, merchant—WILLIAM EDGELL COLES, Strand, dealer in water-proof clothing—WILLIAM GRANT, Brighton, hewer—WILLIAM HENRY PATES, Wellingford, Berkshire, grocer—JAMES EDWARD MITCHELL WILLIAMS, Whitstable, apothecary—THOMAS BARCLAY ARMSTRONG, Mount Street and Carpenter Street, Grosvenor Square, fishmonger—CLARINDA KILNER, Walsall, licensed victualler—EDWARD WHITAKER, Walsall, draper—THOMAS HICKEY, Bristol, brickmaker—BRYAN HERBERT, Fife, Yorkshire, innkeeper—WILLIAM MARSHALL and WILLIAM SMITH, Sheffield, edge-tool manufacturers—WILLIAM WALTERS, Chester, coal agent.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—M. M'LACHLAN and P. BOYLE, Glasgow, fish merchants—W. MEIKLE, Edinburgh, solicitor—D. PROPHET, Liverpool, solicitor.

TUESDAY, JULY 17.

BANKRUPTS.—JOHN WILLIAM MEARS, Croydon, chemist—JOHN and CHARLES ELLIS, Brixton, builders—THOMAS BOSTOCK, Manchester, maker-up—ROBERT LYNHAM COURTNEY, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, auctioneer—WILLIAM WOOD, South Hackney, grocer—WILLIAM POOLE, Kingston-upon-Hull, provision merchant—THOMAS TUGAEE, Slough, horse-dealer—JOSEPH and ROBERT DENT, Atherton, builders—ISAAC DENTON, Horton, draper—JOHN GRESLEY, Liverpool, tobacconist—THOMAS KEELEY, senior, Hellen Ferry, Southampton, butcher—JOHN CRIPPIN, and W. R. FORSTER, Rock Ferry, Chester, coal merchants—GEORGE WYLD, Oxford Street, Middlesex, grocer—FRANCIS L. BAYLEY, and SAMUEL MILNER BAYTON, Manchester, manufacturers.

LADIES' WEDDING ORDERS AND INDIA
OUTFITS are supplied in a very superior style, at moderate prices, by CHRISTIAN and RATHBONE, 11, Wigmore Street. Established 1792.

SILK, MUSLIN AND BAREGE DRESSES,
MANTLES, SHAWLS, LACE, &c.
Patterns sent Post-free.
SELLING OFF AT
KING'S, 243, REGENT STREET,
The remaining SPRING and SUMMER STOCK,
AT HALF THE USUAL PRICES.
Richest French Fancy Silks £1 5s. 6d. the Full Dress.
Richest Brocade Poul de Soies £1 15s. 0d. "
Finest Swiss Cambrics £0 8s. 6d. "
Finest French Muslins £0 5s. 0d. "
Finest Bareges £0 12s. 6d. "
Richest Silk Mantles £1 1s. 0d. each.
Finest Long Barege Shawls £0 17s. 6d. "
Mourning and Half-Mourning
Silks £1 5s. 6d. the Full Dress.
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THE REAL CHINA-GRASS HANDKER-
CHIEFS.
Exquisitely fine, beautifully variegated-coloured Wreathed
Borders, with
LADIES' CHRISTIAN NAMES ENCIRCLED IN THE
CORNERS.
PRICE ONE SHILLING
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Sample Handkerchief sent by return of post upon receipt of
Fourteen Stamps.
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PANTHEON HALL OF COMMERCE,
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PANTHEON HALL OF COMMERCE,
Opposite the Pantheon Bazaar.
Second delivery of the
REAL ALPINE KID GLOVE
with the Eugenie Latchet Chain attached.
PRICE ONE SHILLING PER PAIR,
Latchet Chain attached.
In the undermentioned Colours for the Summer Season:—
No. 1. Draps Fixes—Fixed Drab. 18. Alma—Copper Brown.
2. Chocolate. 19. Black.
3. Gris Protestant—Mid 20. Thel—very Light Tan.
4. Slate. 21. Myrtle.
5. Lavender. 22. Celeste—Sky.
6. Tan d'Or—Golden Tan. 23. Pink.
7. Emerald. 24. Paille—Straw.
8. Citron—Deep Lemon. 25. Croquee—very Light
9. Violet. 26. Brown.
10. Bosphore—Sea Green. 27. Salmon.
11. Napoleon—Bright Blue. 28. Ardoise—Slate.
12. Rose. 29. Coffee.
13. Corinthe—Light Green. 30. Raisin d'Espagne—Dahlia.
14. Lilac. 31. Adelaide.
15. Marron Clair—Light 32. Mastic—Claret.
16. Brown. 33. Olive.
17. Nature—Canary. 34. Marron Fonce—Dark
Brown.
35. Ruby.

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England for the Sale of the Real Alpine Kid Gloves, already
so much appreciated, presenting a brilliancy of colour, per-
fection of quality, cut, elasticity, and softness that no other
Glove can possibly compete with. To be obtained in every
size from 6 to 84.
The Real Alpine Kid Gloves, with the registered Eugenie
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of the sole appointed Agents, Rumbell and Owen.
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postage stamps; weight of Gloves, with Latchet Chain at-
tached, exceeding the half-ounce.

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greatest variety, suited to all requirements, upon the most
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at PUGH'S Family Mourning Warehouse, the first established
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A SINGLE STAY
Carriage free to any part of the Country, on receipt of
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Drawings sent on receipt of a Postage Stamp.
The Elastic Bodice, 12s. 6d.; Paris Wore Stays, 10s. 6d.
The Elastic Bodice, with simple fastening in front, is strongly
recommended by the Faculty.
CABER and HOUSTON, 90, Regent Street; 6, Blackfriars Road;
5, Stockwell Street, Greenwich; and Crystal Palace.

ELASTIC SUPPORTING BELTS OF A NEW
FABRIC FOR LADIES' USE before and after AC-
COUCHMENT are admirably adapted for giving adequate
support with extreme lightness—a point little attended to in
the comparatively clumsy contrivances and materials hitherto
employed.
Instructions for measurement, with prices, on application,
and the article sent by post from the Manufacturers, POPE
and PLANTE, 4, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, London.

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SALETO DI MEDICI. By Royal Patents.
"Infinitely superior to anything of the kind yet introduced,
and in point of style and workmanship it is alike unexcep-
tionable."—Editorial notice in "Le Follet."
They combine firmness with elasticity, fit closely, fasten
easily in front, and are adapted for every age, figure and
habitude. Enlarged prospectus, illustrations, details of prices,
explicit directions and papers for self-measurement, &c., to
any lady, post free. All country orders sent carriage paid,
or post free.
Mesdames MARION and MAITLAND, Patentees, 54, Con-
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drawing or painful effect on the wearer.
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and Trousers, 47s., made to order from Scotch Tweeds, all
wool, and thoroughly shrank, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant
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PROMENADE LONG FROCK COAT, for the Spring
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riding and lounging Coat, is produced in the first style at
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REALLY GOOD BRANDY, 16s. per Gallon.
In French Bottles, 34s. per dozen, with Case, 35s. This
Pure Pale "Eau de Vie" is decidedly superior to much that
is imported direct from Cognac.
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In 18-Gallon Casks, Bottles, Half-bottles, and Imperial Pints.
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COMPANY still supply 7 lbs. of excellent Congou or
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SAUCE imparts the most exquisite relish to food, and
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PURE DEVONSHIRE CYDER, 33s.;
Cockage Cyder, 48s.; Hereford Perry, 48s. each, in
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